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ASEAN Environment Ministers Sign Accord

*BK2006163390 Jakarta ANTARA in English
1018 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jun 20 (ANTARA-OANA)—Indonesia has been elected chairman of the ASEAN working group on environment economics dealing with preparing a strategy to include environment factors in economic calculations to provide a better foundation for international economic cooperation, it was disclosed here Tuesday [19 June] evening.

Indonesian State Minister for Population and the Environment Prof. Emil Salim told ANTARA here that the environmental issue has so far never been touched in drafting various economic planning, whereas the industry is a potential source for the destruction of the environment.

Minister Salim is here after having attended the just concluded fourth ASEAN ministerial meeting on the environment (AMME).

The meeting was attended by Science, Technology and Environment Minister Stephen Yong, Brunei's Minister of Development Pengiran Datuk Sri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail Pengiran Haji Damit, Philippines' Under Secretary in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Celso Roque, Singapore's Environment Minister Dr. Ahmad Mattar, Indonesian Minister of State for Population and the Environment Prof. Dr. Emil Salim and Thailand's Science, Technology and Energy Minister Prachuap Chaisan.

Since the environment issue has never been taken into consideration in drafting economic planning, Minister Salim went on, so if there were additional costs for the preservation of the environment some people said that such an expenditure was one of the cause of high-cost economy.

"It's not true, because Indonesia has a principle for a sustainable and environment-oriented development program. Therefore the environmental issue should be taken into consideration since the stage of planning of projects and other development activities," he asserted.

The ASEAN ministers of environment have come out with a "Kuala Lumpur Accord" for common action to tackle environmental issues at the end of their two-day meeting here Tuesday. Under the accord which calls for the six member countries to act as one in the task, they agreed to initiate efforts to include environment factors in economic calculations to provide a better foundation for international economic cooperation. They also pledged to work out concrete steps pertaining to natural resources management, including the development of joint natural resources management programs. The plans of action are included in the common stand adopted by the ministers in the accord at the conclusion of the fourth ASEAN ministerial meeting on the environment (AMME).

A joint press release issued later, announced the setting up of six ASEAN working group—on nature conservation (to be chaired by Malaysia), ASEAN seas and marine environment (Brunei Darussalam), transboundary pollution (Singapore), environmental management (Philippines), environment economics (Indonesia), and environment information, public awareness and education (Thailand).

AMME Chairman Yong said the meeting agreed to initiate concrete steps pertaining to environment management. This included the formulation of an ASEAN strategy for sustainable development and a corresponding action program, harmonisation of environmental quality standards, harmonisation of transboundary pollution prevention and abatement practices, research and development and the promotion of the use of clean technologies.

The ministers also agreed to develop and formulate a common position to be presented to the ministerial level conference on the environment for Asia and Pacific and, later, to the United Nations conference on environment and development in 1992.

Among the common positions are:

Affirming ASEAN's commitment to the pursuit of sustainable development.

Stressing the need to strengthen regional and international cooperation and proposing the principles upon which such cooperation should be based.

Emphasizing the importance of a global environmental agenda which reflects the priorities and concerns of all countries.

And, underlining the need for substantial additional resources to assist developing countries to pursue their objectives of sustainable development as well as access to, and transfer of, environmentally sound technologies and the establishment of appropriate funding mechanisms.

From Malaysia Prof. Emil Salim continued his trip to Geneva on Tuesday night, where he will attend an international conference on health and the environment. The conference will be jointly organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environmental Programs (UNEP). During the conference Prof. Salim will deliver a paper as a representative from the developing nations.

Japan

U.S. Softens Stand on Public Works Spending

OW1906023890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0019 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—The United States has indicated it may drop its call for Japan to specify a target for expansion of public works spending as a percentage of gross national product (GNP) in bilateral structural trade talks, a high-ranking government source said late Monday.

Instead, the U.S. is now making new requests including a further increase in the total amount of public works expenditures over the next 10 years and stiffer penalties in the antimonopoly law. The source, who refused to be identified, said the softening of the U.S. stance was indicated at a weekend meeting between Secretary of State James Baker and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, held in San Francisco.

The U.S. move is expected to enable the two governments to settle the issue without referring to a specific public works spending target in talks to be held in Tokyo next Monday and Tuesday, he said. The meeting is the fifth and final round of the year-long structural impediments initiative (SII), which is aimed at removing structural barriers to trade and investment in both countries.

The U.S. would still like to see Japan set a target for public works spending as a percentage of GNP, but U.S. negotiators indicated that it may not stick to that position if Japan makes "dramatic" concessions in other fields in the SII talks and the total of public spending on infrastructure, the source said. Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru said earlier that the figure for total public works spending will be settled in the final report in July at around 450 trillion yen for the next 10 years, which is equivalent to 8 percent of projected GNP for that period. The U.S. has been pressing for the figure to be raised to 10 percent, against the current figure of 6 to 7 percent.

Official Confirms Change in U.S. Spending Stand

OW1906043390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0300 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—The director general of the Economic Planning Agency, Hideyuki Aizawa, confirmed Tuesday that the United States may drop its demand for Japan to specify a target increase in public works spending in bilateral structural trade talks.

Aizawa told reporters after a regular cabinet meeting that Secretary of State James Baker had indicated the change in the U.S. stance to Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in their meeting in San Francisco last weekend. Aizawa did not attend the meeting. The U.S. had been urging Japan to set a public works spending target of 10 percent of the gross national product (GNP) in the final report on the structural impediments initiative (SII) talks with Japan. Aizawa said that the U.S. may not necessarily insist on a specific percentage target, but Baker instead urged Japan to increase the total amount of public work expenditures over the next 10 years.

Report To Include Improved Customs Services

OW2106131790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—The government has worked out a set of measures to speed up customs-clearance procedures to be included in a report for the final round of Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks between Japan and the United States, a government source said Thursday. The new plan for customs-clearance procedures is aimed at shortening the time needed for customs services to only one day from the current two to three days, the source said.

Japanese customs procedures have been under attack from the U.S. as constituting a barrier to trade.

The planned proposals highlight the establishment by September of a comprehensive mechanism for better customs-clearance services in collaboration with customs houses, ministries and agencies concerned, the source said. Another main feature of the plan is to promote effective procedures by allowing importers' applications for customs clearance to be processed in advance of the actual arrival of goods. An increase in the number of customs officers to create a 24-hour customs-clearance system is also included in the proposals. Under the new procedures, the government also seeks efficient information exchanges between customs houses and ministries by setting up computerized links, the source said.

Ishihara Calls for Restructuring of U.S. Economy

OW2106144190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1416 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Conservative parliamentarian Shintaro Ishihara on Thursday unveiled a personal treatise aimed at solving Japan-U.S. trade frictions which called for a fundamental restructuring of U.S. society.

In a nine-page proposal aimed at the ongoing Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks, Ishihara called for drastic changes in U.S. society, from its spending and working habits to the way it handles criminals and its military strategies. Japan should get tough with the United States and make concrete demands if the SII trade negotiations are going to bear fruit, said Ishihara, co-author of the controversial book "The Japan That Can Say No."

In the treatise, supported by Ishihara's 16-member lawmakers' group nicknamed "Reimei" or Daybreak, Ishihara said the U.S. should restrict operation of automatic cash machines and promote family savings. "If the U.S. is demanding Japan operate automatic teller machines

24 hours a day to boost consumption, then the Americans should reduce operation hours from 24 hours to less than 12," the list of demands said.

On the military front, the group suggested the U.S. vastly reduce the size of its overseas bases and close some of those in Japan. The group sought a revision of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty in conjunction with a buildup of Japan's military.

To reduce the crime rate lawmakers suggested the U.S. strengthen punishment, particularly against sex offenders and criminals who victimize children.

Ishihara blamed the decline of industry on U.S. management style, and said the U.S. Government should take the lead in revitalizing management. Labor unions nationwide should be reorganized on a corporate rather than universal industrial basis, the document said.

Other proposals were adoption by industry of the lifetime employment system, increasing spending on education to 5 percent of gross national product, and aiming for 90 percent graduation rate for high schools by the year 2000.

Kaifu Discusses Topics for Summit in Houston

OW2106081390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0505 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu met a panel of advisers Thursday to discuss topics on the agenda of the July summit of seven major industrialized nations and pledged to coordinate policies with each participating nation to promote stable development of the world economy. Kaifu met with the prime minister's advisory committee for research of economic structural coordination and global cooperation to prepare for the July 9-11 summit in Houston, Texas.

The committee, convened for the first time since Kaifu became prime minister last August, selected former Foreign Minister Saburo Okita to fill in the vacancy left by the late Haruo Maekawa, former governor of the Bank of Japan. Members of the committee, noting that the trade issues under the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks between Japan and the United States were "the fundamental problem" in bilateral relations with the United States, called for more efforts by Japan to rectify trade imbalances and remove related impediments. A final report on the SII talks, which started a year ago, is expected to be filed next week.

Kaifu promised to reflect the committee's views on the issue at the summit discussions, and added that structural coordination was an important issue not only with the U.S., but from the point of view of promoting policy coordination with all nations.

On the environmental issue, one member called for active involvement by Japan.

The committee was divided on whether to resume the 810 billion yen loan to China which has been suspended since the military crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Beijing in June 1989. Those who fear isolation of China called for an early lifting of the freeze, but others cited the still-cool attitude to China of the U.S. and European nations and lack of democratic process in China as reasons against resumption of the loan. Japan has pledged to extend the loan for 1990-1995.

The committee also called attention to the issue of spiraling land prices, expansion of public investment to raise the standard of living, and the need to successfully conclude the Uruguay Round multilateral trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which are due this December.

One of the contentious issues at the Uruguay Round talks is agricultural market liberalization, where Japan is putting up a lonely fight against opening its rice market.

Abe Comments on Bush Talks, SII Importance

OW2206023390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0135 GMT 22 Jun 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, June 21 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush asked senior Japanese political leader Shintaro Abe Thursday for help in successfully concluding the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII). "SII is an important issue and we want it succeed," Abe said Bush told him during a 30-minute meeting at the White House.

Abe, a former Japanese foreign minister, said he expects a final SII report to emerge on June 26, the last day of a two-day SII conference in Tokyo. But some U.S. trade negotiators are skeptical about the outcome of the Tokyo meeting. And several Japanese and U.S. officials contacted by KYODO NEWS SERVICE said the SII talks in Tokyo may be extended by up to two days.

Abe said after the Bush meeting that he told Bush the two countries should narrow differences and make concessions to reach a successful conclusion to SII. He also said the government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu does not want to bring an unresolved SII issue to Houston, Texas when Kaifu meets Bush just before the start of an annual economic summit on July 9-11.

Abe said Bush told him that he, Kaifu and leaders of West Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada will discuss the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and the China situation at the summit. Bush emphasized that SII, aimed at dismantling structural barriers to trade and investment, is a "two-way street."

SII came up immediately after Bush and Abe discussed three decades of uninterrupted U.S.-Japan mutual security arrangements which Abe told Bush have preserved "peace in Japan and stability in Asia." Abe is in Washington to mark the 30th anniversary of the Japan- U.S. security pact. He added that Bush agreed with his own opinion that the security treaty should be strengthened. Bush said the 1960 treaty has made "immeasurable" contributions to the bilateral relationship and to the world, Abe added.

Abe also conveyed Japan's appreciation for Bush's raising at the recent superpower summit the Japanese claim to four islands held by the Soviets off northern Japan. Abe said he hoped Japan and the Soviet Union "can start forging a new relationship" by settling the islands issue.

He also told Bush Japan will do its best to boost support spending for U.S. troops in Japan. Abe made the same point at a morning meeting with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney at the Pentagon, a senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

Also a former Japanese trade minister, Abe said Japan is ready to step up flows of dual-use technologies to the United States, the official added.

At the outset of the White House meeting, Abe handed the President a copy of a 1957 photo showing his father-in-law Nobusuke Kishi, then U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower and U.S. Sen. Prescott Bush, Bush's father. Abe later met Vice President Dan Quayle and Senate Majority Leader Geie Mitchell.

His Friday schedule calls for a morning meeting with Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and a private dinner with U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Carla Hills. Treasury, State, and USTR co-chair the U.S. team at the SII dialogue with Japan.

In the meeting with Mitchell, Minority Leader Bob Dole and other senators, a Japanese oficial said Sen. Jay Rockefeller cautioned against a confrontational negotiating tactic to settle trade disputes between Tokyo and Washington.

Mitchell, a strong critic of Bush's China policy, said the U.S. Congress strongly disagrees with the Administration's approach toward China. Abe replied that China should not be isolated from the international community.

Sen. Jeff Bingaman, a New Mexico Democrat, said Japan and the United States should further accelerate technology exchanges, in addition to more frequent flows of technologies for the environment and energy, the Japanese official said.

MITI Reacts Calmly to U.S. Cocom Decision

OW1906131690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—Japanese Government officials on Tuesday expressed little reaction to a U.S. decision to ease COCOM-related export procedures.

The United States on Monday proposed a significant elimination of export licensing requirements for high-tech products traded with Japan and U.S. allies in Western Europe. Under the new proposal, exporters in the 17-member countries of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Control (COCOM) would not be required to obtain individual licenses for exporting high-tech products.

A high-ranking official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said, however, that "The COCOM member countries have already agreed to implement such a step. Japan introduced a similar relaxed export procedure in April."

"The U.S. was rather late in taking the step," he said. Since Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union are turning to democracy, "it is a natural course of events that trade between COCOM members will further become liberalized," the official predicted. Japanese companies generally welcomed the U.S. decision. An official of a major electric maker said the proposal would "make much quicker import possible."

"The liberalization in principle from next May will give a further boost to trade in high-tech products," he said. The proposed new general license authorization will further streamline the controls that COCOM announced for East-West trade at a meeting in Paris on June 6 and 7. But, an official of a telecommunications equipment company said, "The picture is unlikley to change in any dramatic way since all the decision will achieve is to speed up what has been already possible with some time and trouble."

Midway Returns to Port; Civic Groups Protest

OW2106094790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0615 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—The U.S. aircraft carrier Midway returned to its home port at Yokosuka naval base south of Tokyo at 11:50 P.M. Thursday, a day after an explosion and fire had left two sailors missing and 16 others hurt. A U.S. Navy spokesman said earlier that six of the injured were in serious condition.

Five sailors were airlifted from the Midway to Yokosuka and four to the U.S. air base in Yokota in western Tokyo, while the other seven were being treated on the Midway.

The spokesman, correcting earlier reports, said there had been only one explosion aboard the carrier, not two as first believed, but no other details were available because the Navy is still investigating the cause of the accident.

Meanwhile, sources at the Yokosuka naval base said the Midway requested the base to dispatch a special rescue unit which handles major accidents immediately after the mishap occurred. But it is not known if the special unit was dispatched to the ship.

The Japanese Defense Agency said it canceled a planned joint military exercise with the Midway set for Thursday, but it has yet to decide on a joint drill through June 29.

Members of Greenpeace Japan and local antinuclear activists left Yokosuka on a chartered motorboat to protest the return of the carrier to port, members of the group said. And 15 members of the antinuclear group visited the naval base to hand a protest letter to the base commander, but guards there did not accept the petition. In Tokyo, another group and Japan Socialist Party legislator Yuriko Hase visited the U.S. embassy and delivered a letter asking the U.S. President to conduct a thorough survey of the accident.

Nakayama Wants Territories on Houston Agenda

OW1906075690 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said he intends to work toward putting the northern territories issue on the agenda for the industrialized democracies summit next month in Houston. This is a major issue pending between Japan and the Soviet Union. Mr. Nakayama made this comment at a session of the lower house Special Committee on Okinawa and Northern Territories, replying to a question from Muneo Suzuki of the Liberal Democratic Party, who asked whether the northern territories issue would be addressed at the Houston summit because it could have a political impact on a solution.

Foreign Minister Nakayama said many issues will be discussed at the summit among the nations' top leaders and foreign ministers, and that the Japanese Government intends to raise the territories question. He thus indicated his intention of working with other nations to put the northern territories on the summit agenda.

Meanwhile, Mr. Togo, director of the Foreign Ministry's European and African Bureau, commented on Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's remarks yesterday at Atami, in which he predicted Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev would visit Japan in early 1991, and noted President Gorbachev's schedule for a visit to Japan next year had been confirmed. Mr. Togo expressed his belief the prime minister's remarks indicated he hopes the Soviet president will visit Japan at earliest convenience. The official made it clear the Foreign Ministry has no word on any plan by Mr. Gorbachev to visit Japan early next year.

Soviet Expert Proposes 'Package Deal' on Islands

OW2006143990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0616 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 20 KYODO—The Soviet Union can return four islands to Japan to resolve the 45-year-old territorial dispute between the two countries, but it should be part of a "package deal," including agreement on bilateral economic cooperation, a Soviet expert on Asian affairs said Wednesday. "This problem should be solved on a package basis with Japan, where the first package should come with the conclusion of a peace treaty and provisions for expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries," Gennadiy Chufrin, deputy director of the Oriental Studies Institute, said at a seminar here.

Giving back the islands to Japan without such a package deal would be politically unacceptable and pose "very serious difficulties in the Soviet parliament," Chufrin said.

"This issue is politically sensitive not only in Japan. It is politically sensitive in the Soviet Union as well," he added.

Chufrin, a former diplomat based in Asian countries, was a guest speaker at an international conference on the security situation in the Asia-Pacific region.

The dispute involving the small Soviet-held islands off Japan's northern major island of Hokkaido is mainly responsible for hindering normalization of Tokyo-Moscow relations. Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu earlier this week said Japan cannot "put aside" the territorial issue though he is eager to promote ties with the Soviet Union. "Settlement of the territorial problem, and consequently normalization of bilateral relations, is directly linked to Japan's security," Kaifu said in reference to a possible visit to Tokyo by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev early next year, the first by any Kremlin leader to Japan.

The territorial dispute is expected to be a major topic of discussion at a Kaifu-Gorbachev meeting.

Soviet-Finland Accord's Effect on Land Issue

OW2006194190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1458 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 20 KYODO—The Soviet Union's land lease agreement with neighboring Finland is a good case study of what might apply to the Soviet-Japan territorial dispute, a senior Soviet academic said here Wednesday.

Igor P. Blischenko, vice president of the Association of Soviet Lawyers, told a Tokyo civic forum that the Soviet Union has been leasing land in the region of Vyborg near the Soviet-Finnish border northwest of Leningrad under a 1962 treaty. He said the land was obtained by the Soviet Union after the war against Finland during World War II, on the grounds that Finland cooperated with Nazi Germany against the Soviet Union. He added that a plan is under way to make the area a "free economic zone" in the near future in which both Soviet and Finnish industries can operate. But he said that sovereignty of the leased land belongs to the Soviet Union. "The leasing was realized to help the Finnish economy by facilitating better water transportation," said Blischenko, chief of the International Law Department of Moscow's Lumumba University.

Blischenko is in Japan to attend a Japan-Soviet symposium to discuss the 1945 Soviet military advance to then Japanese-held territories, including Manchuria, southern Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands and the resulting mass detention of Japanese nationals in labor camps in Siberia, as well as the issue of the four disputed islands off Hokkaido held by the Soviets.

Japanese sponsors say the meeting, the first to openly argue such problems, has come about as part of the "review of history" initiated by President Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroyka policies.

"The case could be studied" to consider how to settle Japan's claim to the four Soviet-held islands, Blischenko said. The Japanese Government claims the return of all four islands as precondition for improving ties with the Soviet Union, including substantial economic cooperation.

Soviet Diplomat Touches on Territorial Dispute

OW2106131690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—The territorial dispute between the Soviet Union and Japan is unlikely to be resolved without the consent of the Russian Federation, a Soviet diplomatic source in Tokyo hinted Thursday. "Important questions, such as the disposition of territory, will no doubt be difficult to resolve without taking into consideration the interests of those people living in the region concerned and soliciting their consent," said the Soviet diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The comment follows the declaration of sovereignty last June 12 by the Congress of the Russian Federation. The declaration includes a provision stating that any change in territory would have to be approved by a people's referendum.

Japan claims four Soviet-occupied islands northeast of Hokkaido and contiguous to the Soviet Kuril Archipelago. The islands fall within the jurisdiction of the vast Russian Federation.

"The situation would not be much different, however, if this provision were not contained in the (Russian) declaration," the diplomat said. "This is because the role of the Soviets in each region of the Soviet Union has recently become much greater," he said. "Without their consent, important questions which concern them cannot be settled."

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official contacted for comment said, "It makes no difference to us whether we are to deal with the Soviet Union or with Russia—the islands are Japanese territory."

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives on Wednesday that he plans to touch on the subject when he meets Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Tokyo in September. Nakayama said he will ask Shevardnadze whether Japan must negotiate the territorial issue with both the central government in Moscow led by its President Mikhail Gorbachev and the government of the Russian Federation led by its President Boris Yeltsin.

Soviet Delegates Admit Postwar Responsibility

OW2206072690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1350 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Soviet delegates to a forum on former Japanese prisoners-of-war Thursday offered to facilitate the issuance of work certificates for 546,000 Japanese detained for forced labor after World War II. The delegates admitted the Soviet Union has a moral responsibility to review the detention issue from a humanitarian view. The two-day meeting in Tokyo, which ended Thursday, would have been unimaginable before President Mikhail Gorbachev's current "review of history," they said.

Moscow has long contended that the detention of the Japanese following the Soviet invasions of then Japanese-held Manchuria (northeastern China), southern Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands was legal and that only some 3,500 Japanese died as a result.

Japanese experts have maintained the detention and prior military advance violated a Japan-Soviet neutrality pact that was to be valid until 1946.

Igor Blischenko, one of the four Soviet panelists, said the forum had a positive outcome and that the Soviets' participation reflects the current Soviet Government's stance. Blischenko [words indistinct] the Association of Soviet Lawyers and chief of the International Law Department of Moscow's Lumumba University. He said efforts to deal with the 45-year legacy of the Soviet move into the Japanese-held areas might be positively treated by Gorbachev's scheduled visit to Japan in 1991.

Japanese sponsors hailed the Soviet move as a breaking of the pre-perestroyka taboo on the topic though they said it was too late for some 230,000 former detentees whose average age is now over 70. These people have still had no substantial compensation for their period of forced labor in camps in the Soviet Union.

Most were sent to Siberia and some taken to Soviet Europe and Caucasus. They worked on railroad construction, in factories and in other forms of forced labor. A senior official at the Soviet Science Academy, Aleksey Kirichenko, revealed in Wednesday's session that 62,068 detainees died of fatigue, cold weather, and work-related accidents.

Kirichenko said the most recent figures, which date from 1959, show grave sites numbered 27, containing the remains of some 15,000 persons, a decrease from the original figure released in 1949 of 341 grave sites and 34,000 bodies. The figure included some sites containing the bodies of German, Romanian, or Hungarian detainees. Kirichenko is seen to have close ties with Presidential Council member Yevgeniy Primakov, a close adviser to Gorbachev.

Participating Japanese academics said the detention of the Japanese, which in some cases lasted until 1956, was against the Potsdam Declaration that allowed for early repatriation after Japan's surrender on August 15, 1945. They also criticized the Soviet Union for keeping many of the detainees as prisoners-of-war charged with "anti-Soviet" crimes.

Discussion also touched on the decision by Joseph Stalin to declare war on Japan in 1945, ignoring the treaty of neutrality, after a secret deal with the allied nations for a Soviet share of territories taken from Japan.

A Soviet Red Cross official at the forum, Aleksey Kristafovich, told the audience of 300 mostly former detainees, his association will search archives for the names of detainees and report the results by the end of 1991. The Soviet Red Cross' senior tracing team director told KYODO NEWS SERVICE the Soviet delegation is to visit the Japanese Red Cross to seek its cooperation in the search.

Blischenko, an expert on law, and Japanese participant, Toshio Okuhara, professor of wartime international law at Kokushikan University, agreed that in accord with international law and bilateral agreements, Japan should pay the former detainees based on certificates of labor the Soviet authorities issued to each detainee. Blischenko said this could be done by asking those formerly in charge of the detainees to give access to the necessary documents.

The audience of former detainees from around Japan included scores of plaintiffs pushing a lawsuit so far unsuccessfully demanding compensation from the Japanese Government. A 78-year-old former detainee said he is devoting the rest of his life to getting the Japanese Government to offer compensation for the period of forced labor he and his fellow detainees experienced. He said that detainees in Malay or Singapore were freed early and received sufficient financial remuneration.

The audience reacted angrily when some of the Soviet delegates attempted to justify the breaking of the bilateral treaty of neutrality, but applauded when the Soviet delegates expressed their intention to mend ties. The Japanese veterans gave their warmest applause when the Soviet delegation leader, Soviet Red Cross Vice President Pavel Shirinskiy, 66, who fought against Nazi Germany on the European front, said Japanese and Russians now look to the future with the knowledge that they shared a tragic experience during World War II.

He was also applauded when he thanked the Japanese for maintaining the graves of former Soviet soldiers in Japan and said it was now up to the Soviets to renovate and maintain the deserted graves of Japanese detainees who lost their lives while in detention.

Rokuro Saito who heads the "All-Japan Former Internees' Association" said the holding of such a "frank and honest" meeting for the first time was significant. He stressed the need for further cooperation to effect a solution to the detention issue as the date approaches for a visit to Japan by Gorbachev.

Meanwhile, Japan's Foreign Ministry officials said they hope the forum will have a positive affect on the Kremlin policy toward Japan.

Nakayama Cautious on Support for Perestroyka

OW1806071590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0629 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 18 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Monday the future course of the ongoing economic reforms in the Soviet Union remains unclear and uncertain and Japan will maintain a careful stance in considering economic assistance to the perestroyka (restructuring) process in that country.

Nakayama, speaking at the House of Representatives special committee on security, said that Japan will thoroughly discuss problems related to the Soviet economic reforms with other participants in the upcoming Houston summit of seven major economic powers.

Japan will pay close attention to the Soviet Communist Party congress starting on July 2 before considering its policies on assistance to the perestroyka process, he said.

Nakayama said discussions at the Houston summit will center on support programs for the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and Latin American countries, global environmental protection, and the accumulated foreign debt problems of developing countries. Nakayama was replying to Japan Socialist Party member Shizuo Wada.

Red Cross Groups To Aid Chernobyl Victims

OW2206114090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—Japanese and Soviet Red Cross Societies have agreed to streamline assistance for victims of the Chernobyl nuclear accident and the tracing of names of former Japanese prisoners-of-war in the Soviet Union, officials said Friday. Both sides reached the accord in a meeting between a four-member Soviet team, led by Soviet Red Cross Vice President Pavel Shirinskiy, and Japan Red Cross officials.

The Soviet team asked Japan to contribute its experience in researching the after-effects of radioactivity to fight the aftermath of the 1986 nuclear plant accident at Chernobyl. Japan suffered atomic bombing twice in 1945 at the close of World War II.

Masayoshi Yamamoto, president of the Japanese Red Cross Society, headed the Japanese side at the meeting.

The Soviet officials admitted that the Chernobyl disaster occurred at a time when the Soviet Union restricted the flow of information, aggravating the situation, said Yoshiaki Nemoto, a Japanese Red Cross official.

A Japanese specialist on the medical effects of radioactivity visited Chernobyl as a member of an international team earlier this year to lay the basis for a new multinational aid plan in the near future.

The Soviet group are seeking Japan's cooperation in locating and compensating an estimated 546,000 Japanese detainees captured by Soviet troops and later sent to forced labor camps mainly in Siberia at the end of World War II. The Soviet delegation was in Tokyo to attend a forum on the problems of former Japanese labor camp detainees.

Red Cross officials from both sides agreed on Japan Red Cross' cooperation in the search for names of former detainees and the future return of the remains of 62,000 dead detainees. Both are long-standing Japanese requests in which the Soviet side promised its cooperation for the first time at the forum, Nemoto said.

Aleksey Kristafovich, a Soviet Red Cross official in charge of tracing missing persons, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that Friday's meeting was "fruitful."

Kristafovich promised his organization would use its expertise to locate records concerning those Japanese detained in labor camps after Soviet troops invaded then Japanese-held Manchuria, Sakhalin and other areas in 1945.

Japan Red Cross officials requested Soviet Red Cross assistance in easing restrictions on visits to Korea by an estimated 3,000-4,000 Koreans stranded in now Soviet-held Sakhalin Island. Japan originally brought the Koreans to the island as forced labor until the end of World War II.

The South Korean and Japanese Red Cross helped organize regular Sakhalin-Seoul flights inaugurated in February for visits by the Koreans despite a lack of diplomatic ties between Seoul and Moscow.

Japanese Red Cross officials also asked the Soviet delegation to help speed up immigration and other procedures for the flights.

Soviet Legal Proceedings Against Fishing Boats

OW2006184890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1236 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 20 KYODO—Soviet officials in Nakhodka are expected to conclude legal proceedings against 10 of the 12 North Korean-registered Japanese fishing boats seized last month toward the end of this week, according to a report from the Japanese Consulate General there reaching the Foreign Ministry on Wednesday. The Soviet officials said they are now preparing documents for legal action against the 10 boats, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The 12 fishing boats and 169 Japanese crewmen were taken to Nakhodka in the Soviet Far East for questioning after being seized for illegal salmon fishing in the North Pacific last month. Soviet officials have already decided that they will release two of the 12 boats after they determined the two boats had not engaged in poaching.

However, the Soviet officials did not disclose either the schedule for the trials or whether they would bring a civil action or a criminal action against the 10 boats, Foreign Ministry officials said. Earlier, Soviet authorities reportedly said that the Japanese crewmen would not be put on trial.

Officials of the Japanese Consulate General are negotiating with the Soviet authorities to have interviews with the Japanese fishermen, but are still not certain when they can meet them, the officials said.

Aid to Beijing, Moscow Could Be Linked to Arms

OW2106121790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1119 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Japanese financial aid to the Soviet Union and China in the future could be linked with those countries' policies of supplying weaponry to third countries, a top Foreign Ministry official hinted Thursday. The top official, speaking on condition of anonymity, expressed concern that the Soviet Union continues to supply weapons to 15 countries, while China supplies weapons to the Pol Pot-led Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. "I think there's an inconsistency when countries suffering from economic troubles and having to borrow money from others are giving weapons away," the official said.

The official also pointed out a contradiction in the case of North Korea, which is supplying weapons abroad in spite of its particularly dire economic situation. He said Japan, in coming to decisions on the loaning of money, will have to "take it into consideration" when recipients of Japanese aid are in turn supplying weapons to third countries. Donor countries, the official said, must make a "political decision" to deal with the situation.

Joint Committee With China To Meet 26-29 Jun

OW1906113790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1052 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—Japan and China will hold the Sixth Plenary Session of their joint 21st Century Committee for Japan-China Friendship from June 26-29 in Beijing and Tianjin, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

The meeting will be the committee's first since Sino-Japanese relations underwent a chill following the crackdown on the prodemocracy movement in Tiananmen Square in June 1989. Officials said the Japanese delegation will be headed by Keio University President Tadao Ishikawa, while his Chinese counterpart will be Zhang

Xiangshan, vice president of the Association for International Understanding of China.

The theme of the meeting will be Sino-Japanese relations in the 1990's and the changing international political and economic environment, officials said. The committee, which last met in Tokyo in November 1988, was conceived in 1983 when then Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and then General Secretary Hu Yaobang held talks and agreed to promote bilateral ties through exchanges of opinions among intellectuals of both countries.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and China's State Planning Minister Zou Jiahua agreed last January to hold a meeting "in the spring." Nakayama told Zou at the time that Japan would like to follow it up with a "gradual upgrading" of the level of bilateral contacts in order to restore normalcy to the two countries' relationship.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters that the sixth session was expected to take place toward the end of last March. But "for technical reasons" this was not possible, he said. He explained that no Japanese government officials are represented on the committee and that the nominal ban on high-level contacts with China is still in effect.

Regulation of DPRK Salmon Imports To Begin

OW1806153190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1434 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—The Japanese Government plans to introduce a new checking system to prevent illegal red salmon imports from North Korea, government sources said Monday.

The sources said the new measure, calling on importers to obtain prior approval from the government, will be taken to cope with a case in which North Korean-registered Japanese fishing boats and Japanese crew members were seized by Soviet authorities for allegedly poaching salmon last month.

According to Japan's Fisheries Agency, the system will not be applied to imports of dog salmon and trout caught in North Korea's territorial waters. North Korean boats regularly fish for red salmon in open waters, but the country does not have agreements with other countries like the Soviet Union which share an interest in maintaining fish stocks.

Japan has applied a similar system to Taiwan since 1984. North Korea exported 639 tons of salmon to Japan last year out of a total catch of 148,983 tons.

Ministers Focus on DPRK in Defense Discussions

OW1906132890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1254 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—North Korea's future course of action was a focus in Security Council discussions Tuesday aimed at forming Japan's next midterm defense program, government sources said.

The sources said North Korea is considered an unstable element in Far East security and cabinet ministers attending the meeting questioned Foreign Ministry officials about whether the country would soften its stance or take an isolation policy in the wake of the recent summit between South Korean President No Tae-u and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in San Francisco.

Meeting participants also expressed concern over press reports that North Korea is likely to possess nuclear arms within the year, the sources said.

Ikuo Sato, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Analysis, Research and Planning Bureau, was quoted as telling the conference that Japan would keep a close eye on North Korean activity. The country is to participate in the Asian Games to be held in Beijing in late September.

The sources said that Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who heads the council, stressed the need of a "thorough debate" on the international military situation in future Security Council sessions.

They said the Defense Agency will explain the difference in military situations between Europe and the Asia-Pacific, the trends of military technology levels in neighboring Asian countries, and the moves of the Soviet Armed Forces in the Far East in coming discussions scheduled for July 6.

Export-Import Bank To Send Adviser to Laos

OW2006203290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1402 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 20 KYODO—The Export-Import Bank of Japan said Wednesday that it will send an economic adviser to Laos at the request of the Laotian Government. The adviser, who is to stay in Laos for six months from July, is being sent to help the Asian country implement new economic policies centering on the introduction of market principles and an open-door policy, bank officials said. Specifically, he will offer advice on borrowings from international institutions and receiving direct investments from foreign countries.

This is the first time the Japanese governmental bank is sending a staff member to the government of a developing nation. This is also the first time Laos has accepted an economic expert from an advanced industrialized nation since the establishment of the present regime in 1975.

Toyota Negative on Early East Europe Production

OW1806134690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1322 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Nagoya, June 18 KYODO - The president of Toyota Motor Corp. struck a negative note Monday toward the early start of production in Eastern Europe.

Shoichiro Toyoda told a news conference that the top Japanese automaker "is not considering launching production soon" in Czechoslovakia, where it recently sent a fact-finding mission.

"We think it is still too early to move into Eastern Europe (for local production)," he said. Toyoda also said the company's auto parts imports, mainly from the United States, rose 27 percent to 1.16 million dollars in fiscal 1989 ended March 31 and expects a similar increase in fiscal 1990.

Turning to the domestic market outlook, he said Toyota will seek to sell more than 2.5 million cars, trucks, and buses this year, up slightly from the 2.48 million target unveiled late last year. He attributed the optimism to expectations that the domestic market will grow to more than six million vehicles rather than the company's earlier projection of 5.8 million.

Toyoda denied industry speculation that a major reshuffle of the company's leadership might be imminent, saying he would not quit in August, when Toyoda's senior officers will see their two-year term of office expire. Toyota's chairman, Eiji Toyoda, who was also present at the press conference, echoed him, saying he would not resign either. The chairman quit as one of vice chairmen of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Japan's powerful business lobby, in May when Keidanren's leadership was reshuffled.

Nissan To Market Vehicles in East Germany

OW2106132690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Nissan Motor Co. said Thursday it will begin to market passenger and commercial vehicles in East Germany on Friday through its West German distributor Nissan Motor Deutschland GmbH. It said its West German distributor has already concluded sales and service agreements with 36 East German dealers, but gave no further details.

The planned German monetary union in July has spurred Nissan to set up a sales network in East Germany to compete with European car makers in that market, where the growth potential is expected to be large.

Nissan plans to market six of its models in East Germany, including the Sunny passenger car and the Vanette commercial vehicle. The company said it is aiming at sales of 2,000 vehicles in 1990.

Firms in Europe Reluctant on Local Management

OW1806210990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1457 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 18 KYODO—Many Japanese companies doing business in Western Europe take a negative view of allowing local employees to participate in the process of key decision-making, including fund-raising and research and development, a private survey showed Monday.

The Japan Machinery Exporters Association said a survey of 94 Japanese firms found that 67 percent replied they are unwilling to let locally hired staff take part in the process of decision-making on raising funds for long-term purposes.

Of the pollees, 76 percent said locally hired staff should not be permitted to have a voice in making decisions on new plants, according to the survey. It also showed 60 percent are hesitant to let local staff join the board of directors, while 42 percent said they are unwilling to allow local staff to take part in research and development.

The survey, meanwhile, showed 42 percent hired local staff for top management posts to improve labor-management relations, with 21 percent replying that they have locally hired employees on the board of directors. Showing the careful Japanese attitude toward personnel management, 88 percent of the companies surveyed said they let local staff head labor-related divisions, with 71 percent having local staff head personnel divisions.

Also, more than half of the manufacturers polled said they procure more than 80 percent of parts for production locally. Even in the case of electronics companies depending heavily on parts imported from Japan, 44 percent said they import less than 60 percent of their parts needs from Japan for local production, the survey showed.

The survey was conducted last March on companies in the automobile, machinery and trading industries, 68 percent of which responded.

Diet Members Form Mandela Welcoming Committee

OW2006195790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1252 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 20 KYODO—Japanese parliamentarians, scholars and citizens set up a committee Wednesday to welcome South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela when he visits Japan in late October. The vice chairman of the African National Congress (ANC) will visit Japan as the invitation of the Japanese Government.

Mandela was released from jail last February after 27 years of imprisonment for attacking South Africa's apartheid, or racial segregation, policy.

Among members of the welcoming committee are socialist Diet member Kanji Kawasaki, conductor Hiroyuki Iwaki, and jazz musician Sadao Watanabe. Committee members said they will establish offices in Tokyo and Osaka. They plan to stage anti-apartheid and welcoming events for Mandela.

The committee also said it will call on Japanese citizens to donate money for the events.

Annual Business Meeting With Malaysia Opens

OW2106040190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0250 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 21 KYODO—Japanese and Malaysian businessmen opened their annual meeting here Thursday with promotion of trade, investment and tourism between the two countries topping the agenda.

In a brief message to the two-day meeting, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed assured Japanese businessmen that his country will continue to be a good host for foreign investors. Japan is the largest single foreign investor and trade partner for Malaysia.

Japan sent a 120-man delegation to the meeting, the 13th in a series, led by Masami Ishii, senior adviser to Mitsui and Co. The businessmen's meeting is held alternately in Japan and Malaysia.

Kaifu Pledges Support for Peru's Rebuilding

OW2106084990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0553 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told a leader of Peru's parliament on Thursday that Japan is prepared to help in its economic reconstruction in cooperation with other major Western aid donors, a Foreign Ministry official said. "Japan is prepared to offer as much assistance as possible within the framework of international cooperation," Kaifu was quoted as telling Luis Alvarado, speaker of the chamber of deputies, the lower house of the Peruvian parliament. Kaifu indicated in their 10-minute meeting that the assistance would be made available in conjunction with Peru's own efforts, the official said.

Peru had an inflation rate of 2,775 percent last year, when its gross domestic product fell by over 12 percent.

Kaifu asked Alvarado to tell President-Elect Alberto Fujimori that a warm welcome awaits him on his expected visit to Japan in early July.

Alvarado, on a 10-day visit until June 24 at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry, told Kaifu that the Peruvian lower house intends to bestow on him its highest decoration for his services as head of the Japan-Peru Parliamentarian Friendship Association before he became prime minister. Alvarado, who heads the Peruvian side of the association, told Kaifu that the parliament is also hoping to establish a Japan-Peru friendship day on April 3, the day when the first ship carrying Japanese immigrants arrived in 1899.

Foreign Ministry officials said Alvarado's visit and the plan to decorate Kaifu with the honor are not related to the June 10 election of Peru's first president of Japanese descent. His parents were born in Japan. "The parliament is independent from the presidency, and the visit has nothing to do with Fujimori's election," a Foreign Ministry official said.

Fujimori, whose inauguration is scheduled for July 28, is expected to leave Peru on Monday for a 12-day tour of the United States, Japan, and South Korea.

Nation Reportedly World's Biggest Aid Donor

OW2206112890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1009 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—Japan has become the biggest aid donor in the world for the first time ever, with contributions of around 9 billion dollars in 1989, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. Quoting statistics compiled by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the ministry said Japan extended 8.96 billion dollars in Official Development Assistance (ODA) last year, a 1.9 percent drop from 9.13 billion dollars the year before.

The United States, the top donor in 1988, dropped to second place, with 7.66 billion dollars, followed by France, whose disbursement totaled 7.47 billion dollars. The OECD ascribed the fall in United States aid to a concentration of contributions in 1988 and a delay in disbursements to the International Development Association (IDA), affiliated with the World Bank, ministry officials said.

Net ODA disbursements from member countries of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), a suborganization of the 24-member OECD, to developing countries and multilateral institutions were 46.50 billion dollars in 1989, compared with 48.13 billion dollars in 1988, the report said. With allowance for changes in prices and in exchange rates against the U.S. dollar, this represents a decrease of 2 percent in real terms.

ODA as a share of gross national product (GNP) for DAC members combined declined to 0.33 percent last year from 0.36 percent in 1988. The decrease was primarily the result of special factors in the timing of contributions to multilateral institutions, mainly the World Bank.

The OECD also said net total resource flows reaching developing countries from all sources, including DAC, non-DAC countries, and multilateral institutions, are estimated at 109 billion dollars against 104 billion dollars in 1988.

Nine out of the 18 DAC member nations reported higher ODA outflows in real terms, with seven out of the nine increasing the ratios of ODA to their GNP.

Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands continue to stand out as the countries with the highest ODA/GNP ratios, with Norway and Denmark in front at 1.02 and 1.00 percent, respectively.

Japan, though at the top in absolute amount, ranked 12th in terms of its ODA/GNP ratio at 0.32 percent in 1989, unchanged from 1988.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry said the government would not indulge in self-satisfaction and is willing to further boost its overseas assistance.

The ministry also indicated it might be difficult to fulfill its five-year aid plan, which calls for more than 50 billion dollars in ODA from 1988 to 1992. "We will do our utmost in the remaining three years ... But it is not certain how the foreign exchange rate will affect our contributions in dollar terms," a ministry official said.

LDP, Opposition: No Diet Session Extension

OW1906131890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and three opposition parties agreed Tuesday not to extend the current Diet session, which ends next Tuesday, party officials said.

The agreement came when Kanezo Muraoka, chairman of the LDP's Diet Affairs Committee, met separately with the chairmen of the Diet policy affairs committees of the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party.

They also agreed to vote on opposition-sponsored bills designed to kill the Consumption Tax and the LDP-proposed bills to revise the tax at a meeting of the Special Committee on Tax System of the House of Representatives on Thursday and at a plenary session of the Lower House on Friday.

It is seen almost certain that the opposition-proposed bills will be killed in the Lower House and that the Consumption Tax revision bills will be approved there but dropped without deliberations when they are sent on to the House of Councilors.

Farm Minister on Problems in Opening Rice Market

OW1906070490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 19 KYODO—Agriculture Minister Tomio Yamamoto said Tuesday he would reply the same day to a protest letter from U.S. Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter about Japan's rice import policy.

Yamamoto told reporters after a regular Cabinet meeting that his letter is mainly an explanation about the actual conditions of agriculture in Japan. He said he writes, for instance, that Japanese agriculture has been damaged by past liberalization moves and pointing out that the opening of the beef market is planned in the near future.

The letter said the added opening of the rice market could cause serious problems for Japanese agriculture. Among other points it makes were that a recent resolution by the Diet opposing the opening of the rice market should be respected, and that rice has a special position in Japanese culture.

Yamamoto said he stressed his understanding of the importance of discussions about farm products in the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks. But he also reiterated that complete self-sufficiency in rice is vital for Japan.

Yamamoto received Yeutter's letter May 28 complaining of his remarks that U.S. pressure on Japan to change its rice policy is an unwarranted interference in Japan's internal affairs. Yeutter had earlier been reported as criticizing Japan for its reluctance to change the policy.

Says Policy Unable To Change

OW2106094990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0913 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Tokyo, June 21 KYODO—Japanese Agriculture Minister Tomio Yamamoto said Thursday that Japan cannot alter a ban on rice imports policy due to the special status of rice in Japanese culture. "Rice is the principal food and a chief farm product in Japan," Yamamoto said in a luncheon with reporters held at the Japan National Press Club.

Yamamoto made the remark in view of the scheduled meetings in late of July by trade negotiation committees of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and by agriculture ministers from five major countries. Yamamoto said he considers a successful conclusion in December of ongoing GATT Uruguay Round is vital to world trade and that agriculture ministers from participating nations will make every effort to achieve that aim. But he said he is expecting tough negotiations with his counterparts at those meetings.

Yamamoto argued Japan has substantially cut its rice production over the years and its self-sufficiency in food is now roughly 30 percent, threatening the nation's food security. He predicted that if Japan frees imports of rice immediately, small farmers as well as farmers running other businesses on the side will be severely hurt. He said Japan restricted import of 103 items about 30 years ago but the number has now decreased to 17 and will drop further to 13 items next spring after liberalization of orange and beef meats.

Mongolia

Diplomatic Relations With Chile To Be Restored

OW2206130790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] The governments of the Mongolian People's Republic and the Republic of Chile have agreed to restore diplomatic relations starting from June 22, 1990. The understanding is in the interests of strengthening mutual understanding, development of friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries, as well as with due account of the emergence of a new international climate and positive changes in their respective countries, and in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the 1961 Vienna convention on diplomatic relations.

Sharabsambuu's Asia-Pacific Tour Hailed

OW2006122290 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Unattributed "talk" on the recent Asia-Pacific tour of Sharabsambuu, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Mongolia]

[Text] The Mongolian People's Republic, taking the course of an open-door economic policy, seeks to expand economic cooperation with its neighbors in the Asia-Pacific region. A proof of this was the recent visit of Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia Sharabsambuu to China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Thailand.

Business circles of these countries have displayed a keen interest to develop cooperation with the Mongolian People's Republic, first of all in the sphere of mining, food and light industry, tourism, and civil aviation. It is also planned to expand trade exchange and build small joint ventures on the production of consumer goods. The State Trade Promotion Corporation of South Korea plans to open in the nearest future its trade representatives in Beijing, Ho Chi Minh [City], and Bucharest. They will promote the expansion of economic ties of South Korea with the socialist countries that would serve a good ground for developing political dialogue with the socialist countries. South Korea has established diplomatic relations with Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Romania, and Mongolia. The other day the South Korean Embassy was opened in Ulaanbaatar.

At the same time the activity of South Korea in Asia is growing. In part, it is planned to resume talks on the exchange of trade missions with China, which, despite the decreased business activity following the sorrow event on the Tiananmen Square, remains the largest trade partner of South Korea among the socialist countries. South Korean business circles also seek to establish close trade and economic ties with Vietnam. Despite the negative reaction of Washington, Seoul holds an active position concerning the advancedment of South Korean-Vietnamese dialogue as the practice of triumphant advancement of South Korea in Eastern Europe shows a planned opening of trade missions which serve symptomatic move in this regard.

P. Ochirbat Meets With Japanese Visitor

OW2006195990 Ulaanbatar International Service in Japanese 1200 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Ochirbat, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia, on 15 June met with Yanagisawa, secretary general of the Japan-Mongolia Friendship Association and concurrently president of Santoka Enterprise Publishing Company. The latter is visiting Mongolia at the invitation of Mongolia Children's Fund.

Mr. Yanagisawa has donated $170,000 and 1.5 million yen to the Children's Fund.

In cooperation with a Mongolia state-run airline company and tourist firm Juulchin, his company will participate in a project for [word indistinct] construction, and contribute half of funds for the inauguration of Ulaanbaatar-Tokyo [word indistinct] air service.

The service will be launched in the middle of August.

MPRP Central Committee Discusses Elections

OW2206115790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee Presidium held its enlarged session to discuss the questions concerning the party's participation in the preelection contests underway now throughout the country and its many tasks in this respect.

The report says that there are 2,200 people nominated as deputies to the Mongolian People's Great Hural, the supreme body of state power, for 430 constituencies, that is eight candidates on an average for one constituency. Among the numbers, one percent are women; 14.2 percent workers and livestock breeders; 46.7 percent office workers, including over 200 chairmen of agricultural cooperatives, and [words indistinct] of provincial district workers' clubs.

The report also noted the imperative need of intensifying the preelection contests, in particular the enlargement of the share of workers, livestock breeders, women, and youth [words indistinct] among the deputies of the Mongolian People's Great Hural.

MPRP Department Magazine Polls Electors

OW2106114190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee's Theoretical and Ideological

Department magazine DIALOGUE has published the results of the public opinion poll carried out by the department among 12,680 inhabitants of Mongolia's 18 aymags (provinces), and Darhan, Erdenet, and Baganuur cities.

According to the poll, 85.2 percent of those questioned support the present cause of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party. 59.3 percent of all those questioned are representatives of intelligensia, 29.9 are workers, and 14.8 percent are livestock breeders. 29.6 percent believe that the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party's prestige is still high, and 45.2 percent consider that the party is losing its prestige. 74.1 percent of the questioned have highly estimated the decisions of the April Extraordinary Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, and only 1.6 percent are not satisfied with its result.

UNEN Editorial Examines Forthcoming Elections

OW2106104390 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] The daily UNEN editorial deals with the forthcoming July 29 general elections to the Mongolian people's hurals at all levels. The editorial says that there has been completed the nomination of candidates for people's hurals, and the election campaign has entered its determination period.

During the nomination of candidates for deputies, there have been revealed such negative phenomenon as the lack of political culture, aspirations for misleading electors by discouraging candidates to deputies from competing parties, low collective tendencies, bureaucratism, violation of order, which arouses censure among the public, notes the UNEN.

It calls on electors to elect the best people as deputies, who would, above all, defend the interests of the people in the homeland and who exhibit high political culture, foresight, and are devoted to the cause of renewal, says the UNEN editorial.

Artists Union Holds Extraordinary Congress

OW2006100490 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] An extraordinary congress of the Union of Mongolian Artists is under way in Ulaanbaatar, giving priority to the democratization of spiritual life, development of artistic culture, and raising of the role of fine arts organization, training of artists, and settlement of their social problems.

Speaking there, Chairman of the Union of Mongolian Artists Boldin noted that for many years fine arts have been serving the system of bureaucratism and administration which resulted in the separation from the rich national traditions and heritage and restrictions of methods of clear thinking and creativity. In other words, it was made an instrument of copying the alien and misrepresentation of the reality, he noted.

Elects Chairman, Executive Council

OW2006121590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] An extraordinary congress of the Mongolian Artists Union has been held in Ulaanbaatar. There was stressed at the congress that Mongolian artists must be provided with all conditions of free and bold creative work and fully supported in their creative search.

The extraordinary congress discussed the union's organizational matters and elected its Presidium Executive Council and Auditing Council.

Chairman of the Mongolian Artists Union committee has been elected Mr. Boldin.

Locally Assembled Color TV Sets Go on Sale

OW1706115090 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] The first part of Mongolian color TV sets with a trade mark Monal has gone into sale. Only (?one year) ago, the firm Mongolian Electronics was set up at the initiative of highly qualified experts. It is engaged in assemblying electronic devices and educational displays for schools, young pioneer palaces, vocational and technical schools and institutions.

Color TV set of the Mongolian Electronics firm does not merely differ from Japanese. It is not surprising because the Mongolian firm has a cooperation agreement with the Japanese Sharp firm and (Huagalo) enterprise of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China (?for) the joint assembly of 2,000 TV sets this year. In future, it is planned to create a workshop capable to assembly upto 4,000 TV sets a year.

Monal TV sets are portable and three times cheaper than analogous ones imported from Japan.

North Korea

SKNDF Denounces DLP Constitutional Revision

SK2106112390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—A spokesman of Hanminjon [South Korean National Democratic Front—SKNDF] June 18 published a commentary on the No Tae-u group's plot of "constitutional revision for the parliamentary cabinet system" seeking a long-term office, according to radio VOICE of NATIONAL SALVATION.

Hanminjon vehemently denounces the plot of No Tae-u's "Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]" for the "constitutional revision" being stepped up to gratify the dirty lust for one-man, one-group "power," branding it as a betrayal of the will of the people and a shameless criminal act intoxicated with power, the spokesman said, and continued:

Our people, fully aware through over 40 years of the colonial fascist dictatorial rule and three years of the No "military government" that there can be neither chajusong of the nation, nor the democratisation of society, nor a bright prospect of national reunification under the pro-American military dictatorial "regime," can never allow the anti-democratic, anti-national plot of "constitutional revision for the parliamentary cabinet system" aimed at the permanent power of the military dictatorship.

To smash the plot of No Tae-u's "Democratic Liberal Party" for the "constitutional revision" is an urgent task in the struggle to defend the power of the people, overthrow the dictatorial "regime" and democratize society.

In order to foil the plot the entire people must rise in the anti-No Tae-u, anti-"DLP" and anti-"constitutional revision for indirect election system" struggle as in the days of the June resistance when shouts of "no more protection of the constitution" and "down with dictatorship" shook heaven and earth.

The United States is the mastermind of the plot for "constitutional revision for the parliamentary cabinet system" which the No Tae-u group is hastening.

The people of all strata must resolutely frustrate the underhand lobby politics of the United States to bind our people to a harsh colonial yoke and the fetters of dictatorship for ever.

South 'Hard Hit' by U.S. 'Sanctions'

SK2206104190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 22 Jun 90

["Economic Sanctions by Master"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The United States has increased tariffs on the imports from South Korea seven times, according to a report.

The United States is taking sanctions of various forms against South Korea such as keeping commodities from it in the custom-house more than one month or attaching complicated conditions to them.

The U.S. imperialists are taking the step for blocking South Korean goods from entering the United States while forcing South Korea to open the market wider for their surplus goods.

The South Korean puppet clique is hard hit by these sanctions by the United States, their major market.

U.S. Called To Come to Negotiating Table

SK2206051890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 22 Jun 90

["Disarmament on Korean Peninsula Must Be Realised Without Delay"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—If the South Korean authorities really want disarmament and peace, they must not shun the DPRK's peace initiative, but respond to it and immediately take the road of drastic phased arms reduction.

The United States, though belatedly, must come out to the negotiating table with us for guaranteeing peace in Korea with a sincere stand for practically solving the Korean question.

NODONG SINMUN says this in an article today.

It quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as teaching:
"For the relaxation of tension and for durable peace, the North and South must adopt a nonaggression declaration guaranteeing that both sides refrain from invading the other, the DPRK and the United States must sign a peace agreement, the armed forces in the North and the South must be reduced drastically and nuclear weapons and foreign troops must be withdrawn from South Korea."

The talks for disarmament on the Korean peninsula should, by nature, be held among the DPRK, the United States and South Korea. As the United States is still unwilling to respond to it, the discussion of arms reduction cannot be shelved for an indefinite period till it shows a response.

The joint meeting of the central people's committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, therefore, put forward a new disarmament proposal, from the stand that a possible way of discussing disarmament should be explored before the tripartite talks are held.

The disarmament proposal involves 10 points of urgency in defusing tensions and guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula for the present such as that the North and the South should limit all the military training and manoeuvres, turn the Demilitarized Zone along the Military Demarcation Line into a peace zone and build confidence between them, that they should reduce their armed forces by three stages to less than 100,000 men respectively, that the foreign troops and nuclear weapons should be withdrawn from South Korea to convert the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and that a step should be taken for realising disarmament and ensuring peace after it.

The realisation of the DPRK's new disarmament proposal will clear the Korean peninsula of the danger of a nuclear war, turn our country into a nuclear-free, peace

zone and usher in a new history of trust and reconciliation, unity and peace between North and South.

The realisation of the disarmament proposal for peace on the Korean peninsula dependes entirely on the attitude of the United States and the South Korean authorities. If they truly want peace and not war, there is no ground or reason whatsoever for them to refuse to accept the DPRK's disarmament proposal.

If the United States and the South Korean authorities resort to the old war scheme, turning their back on the DPRK' new disarmament proposal this time again, they will face bitterer accuses and condemnation at home and abroad as the very ones who are aggravating tensions and warmaniacs.

U.S. 'Assault Planes' Simulate Attacks

SK2206110590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 22 Jun 90

["Aerial War Exercises Against North"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists brought formations of assault planes, pursuit-assault planes and AWACS planes including A-6, FA-18 and OA-10 from the Iwakuni base in Japan to the Osan airforce base in South Korea between 11:00 and 20:00 June 19, and formations of assault planes and pursuit-assault planes including A-6, A-4 and FA-18 from overseas bases to an airforce base in South Korea between 12:00 and 14:00 June 21, before sending them out in succession to the sky above operational zones for aerial strike exercises in a simulated attack on the targets in the forward area, coastal areas and inland areas of the Northern half of Korea, according to military sources.

They brought formations of C-141 and C-130 transport planes carrying a large number of troops and combat equipment from overseas bases to the Osan airforce base between 14:00 and 20:00 June 19 and deployed them at bases in South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists sent a Guam-based KC-135 refuelling tank to the sky above Kunsan and the West Sea between 13:00 and 15:00 on June 21 and staged a mid-air refuelling exercise for formations of F-16 fighter-bombers of the U.S. seventh airforce.

And the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets brought formations of F-16 fighter-bombers and OA-10 AWACS planes of the U.S. seventh airforce to the sky above Anmyon and Oeyon Islands and let them stage bomb-dropping and aerial warfare exercises against the North in coordination with formations of F-16 fighter-bombers of the puppet air force from 12:00 to 21:00 on June 21.

At around 11:23 that day the U.S. imperialists brought to the sky above the area along the Military Demarcation Line Okinawa-based E-3 planes whose mission is espionage combining the guidance and commanding of the combat actions of flying corps with anti-aircraft early warning and let them make shuttle flights from the east to the west for vicious electronic espionage on the area 400 kilometres deep of the Northern half of Korea and the sky above it.

Further on U.S. Scholars' Visit to DPRK

Pyongyang Colloquium Held

SK2106115290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—A Korean-U.S. scholars interdisciplinary colloquium was held here from June 17 to 21.

Han Su-kil, vice-president of the chuche idea academy, declaring the colloquium open, said that the colloquium could be held thanks to the joint efforts of scholars of the DPRK and the U.S. to seek the truth of the times, improve the relations between the two countries and contribute to world peace.

The current contact of Korean and U.S. scholars will mark an important occasion in deepening mutual understanding, opening the door of academic exchange and developing it many-sidedly, he added.

Prof. and Dr. Erwin Marquit of University of Minnesota and editor of the theoretical magazine "NATURE, SOCIETY and THOUGHT", who is leading the U.S. scholars delegation said that the importance of the colloquium lies in that it is the first of its kind ever between the scholars of the DPRK and the U.S. and it would be an occasion in bringing about a qualitative change in the relations between the two peoples. We will make efforts to develop the relations between the two peoples in an atmosphere of friendship, cooperation and confidence so as to terminate the U.S. military presence in South Korea and help toward Korea's reunification.

Debate on the agenda items followed.

The colloquium took place in such forms as reading of papers, question and answer and conversation.

The scholars of the DPRK read papers on the achievements in their study of the man-centred chuche idea which meets the requirement of the new historical era, the question of Korean reunification, peace on the Korean peninsula and security in the Asia-Pacific region.

The U.S. scholars read papers on the results of their study of material dialectics and spoke about the role of academic exchange and its importance in the improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations.

At the colloquium, the scholars of the two countries exchanged valuable achievements in their academic researches and deepened mutual understanding.

Expressed at the colloquium were the wishes of the scholars of the two countries to see the continuation of such colloquium and develop multi-faceted academic exchange such as joint study, joint publication and mutual information of the achievements in academic researches.

The U.S. scholars expressed their deep understanding of the earnest desire of the Korean people for reunification and the fair reunification proposals of the DPRK and voiced support to them.

The colloquium was a meaningful session at which scholars of the DPRK and the U.S. deepened mutual understanding and confidence.

U.S. Presence 'Danger to Peace'

SK2106233390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—A resolution of solidarity of U.S. scholars for peace in Korea was published here today.

The text of the resolution reads as follows:

Whereas we, United States scholars, participating in the "Korean-United States scholars' interdisciplinary colloquium" in Pyongyang, Korea, from June 15, 1990, and interacting freely with North Koreans of many walks of life, have learned of the enormous hardships caused by United States policies of hostility toward the DPRK.

Whereas the presence of over 40,000 U.S. troops and tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea is a principal serious danger to peace in Korea and Asia.

Whereas the national division of Korea prevents the coordinated use of the country's natural wealth and strength and talents of all the people for the prosperity and welfare of the country.

Whereas the presence of United States troops constitutes an obstacle to negotiations between the North and the South on the reunification of Korea.

Therefore be it resolved that we ask those responsible for DPRK relations in the USA Government to reflect on the principle of tolerance and respect for national sovereignty as required by international law, and that they remove all USA troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Be it resolved that we strongly urge the government of the USA to reevaluate its present policy toward the DPRK and set in motion a process of change that will remove all economic barriers and military threats to the DPRK and that will lead to normalization of diplomatic, trade and cultural relations between the two countries, based on mutual respect for sovereignty and adherence to peaceful resolution of the differences that separate them.

And be it resolved, that we urge establishment of structures to encourage cultural and education exchange, to tell our USA citizens to learn from and share our own achievents with the Korean people.

And be it resolved, that we commit ourselves to communicating a true picture of the DPRK, so that our people's lives can be enriched by the knowledge of the far-reaching achievements of the courageous and creative people of the DPRK.

And be it resolved that we recognize the importance of dialogue and contacts, including colloquiums are really advantageous to both U.S. and Korean scholars, strongly urge the government of the DPRK and the KASS [expansion unknown] to take positive steps to help more U.S. scholars from various academic and educational institutions to visit this beautiful country.

'Collusion' Between Japan, South Denounced

SK2206102190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 22 Jun 90

["Let's Frustrate Collusion Between Outside Forces and Traitors"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets and the Japanese reactionaries signed a criminal "agreement" 25 years ago under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists. In this connection NODONG SINMUN today carries an article calling for decisively smashing the collusion between the outside forces and the traitors.

The "treaty of basic relations" and "agreements" including "agreement on the settlement of the issue of property and its claims and economic cooperation", "fishery agreement", "agreement on the legal status and treatment of Koreans in Japan", etc. Signed between the South Korean puppets and Japanese reactionaries are, to all intents end purposes, treacherous documents whereby the puppets made a clean sheet of the crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists during their 36 years long colonial rule over Korea and sold off South Korea as a dual colony of the United States and Japan. It is also an aggressive document which opened to the Japanese reactionaries a road to stage a comeback to South Korea.

After securing a springboard for reinvasion through these "agreements", the Japanese reactionaries have set up many aggressive tools and seized the life line of politics and economy in South Korea under the cloak of "economic cooperation".

The news analyst says:

At a time when the world is heading towards detente and disarmament and the desire for national reunification is growing stronger than ever before among the entire Korean people, the Japanese reactionaries are getting overheated in arms expansion for rearmament and are sharpening the sword for an inroad into the whole of Korea and the rest of Asia.

They are also zealously encouraging the South Korean puppets' divisive "northern policy" and campaign for

"U.N. Membership," taking advantage of the criminal "two Koreas" policy of the U.S. imperialists.

Worse still, the Japanese reactionaries, in league with the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, are persisting in such anachronistic acts as seeking hostility and military threat against our Republic.

They are now obstructing Korea's reunification, following the United States. This shows that they refuse to repent of the crimes they committed against the Korean nation in the past and are repeating historical errors in the Korean question.

The Japanese military forces' reinvasion of South Korea is fostered by the No Tae-u group, the stooge serving both the United States and Japan.

The No group's undisguised political and tieup with the Japanese reactionaries is a vicious challenge to the demand of the era of chajusong and to the whole nation's desire for peaceful reunification.

The South Korean puppets must give up the ridiculous dream of maintaining the fascist dictatorial power under the patronage of the outside forces by further strengthening the tieup with the Japanese reactionaries, encouraged by the U.S. imperialists.

The Korean people who suffered measureless pains and misfortunes under the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule will never allow the dangerous moves of the Japanese militarists to force a history of distress upon them again.

The Japanese reactionaries must look straight at the strong will of the Korean people and immediately stop obstructing peace and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula and antagonizing our Republic, hand in glove with the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

Soviet Yacht Fleet Arrives at Najin Port

SK2206053090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—A Vladivostok yacht fleet of the Soviet Union for the independent reunification of Korea arrived in Najin, a port city on the northeastern coast of Korea, on June 21.

20 odd yachtsmen who left Vladivostok on June 14 reached Najin Port after a successful 7-day sailing through rough waves.

At the wharf a crowd warmly welcomed the members of the Yacht Fleet who came to extend support to and solidarity with the Korean people in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Norodom Sihanouk Meets With Kim Il-song

SK2106114190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today met His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Kampuchea, now on a visit to Korea.

President Kim Il-song had a cordial and friendly conversation with His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

President Kim Il-song arranged a luncheon for His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Invited there were the entourage of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Kampuchean Ambassador to Korea Son Chhum.

Vice-president Yi Chong-ok and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cha Pong-chu were also present.

The luncheon proceeded in a warm atmosphere.

Laos Fully Supports Reunification, WPK Policy

SK2206101190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] fully supports the lines and policy of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and all the reunification proposals including the five-point policy put forward by Comrade Kim Il-song recently for national reunification, declared Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the LPRP, when he met a delegation of the international department of the Central Committee of the WPK led by its Vice-Director Kim Yang-kon.

The General Secretary said he would make every possible effort to develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the LPRP and the WPK.

Further on Tanzanian Party Delegation's Visit

Kim Yong-sun Addresses Rally

SK2106050490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass meeting welcoming the visiting delegation of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (RPT) was held Wednesday.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary Choe Chang-ko of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said that the Korean people follow with happy feelings the proud achievements the fraternal Tanzanian people have made in their struggle for social progress and the prosperity of the country, holding aloft the banner of socialism and self-reliance under the leadership of the party.

With the foundation of the RPT guided by the "Arusha declaration" by the outstanding leader of the Tanzanian people Comrade Julius K. Nyerere the Tanzanian people have become able to advance along the road of socialism they chose, he stressed, adding:

The energetic efforts of the Tanzanian people to completely liquidate colonialism and racism in Africa, realize South-South cooperation, establish a fair international economic order and develop the non-aligned movement are supported and praised by the African people and the progressive people of the world.

He wished the Tanzanian people greater success in their future struggle to implement the party's action program by the year 2002 which was adopted at the third congress of the RPT and accomplish the cause of socialism, the embodiment of the "Arusha declaration".

Head of the delegation C. Tandau [name as received], member of the Central Committee and secretary of the National Executive committee of the RPT, spoke next.

He said that the unswerving attitude of the Korean people who are advancing under the uplifted banner of socialism, the banner of self-reliance, unshaken under any circumstances, closely rallied behind the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, gives a great confidence to the Tanzanian people.

The Tanzanian people actively support the five-point policy for national reunification put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he stated, and said: We will always stand by the Korean people in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists who have divided Korea into two.

He expressed thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea for the warm hospitality accorded them during their stay.

The meeting was attended by Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other officials.

Delegation Concludes Visit 22 Jun

SK2206105190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania led by Alfred C. Tandau, member of the Central Committee [C.C.] and secretary of the National Executive Committee of the Party, left for home today, concluding its 11-day visit to Korea.

Secretary of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Yong-sun and other officials saw the delegation off at the airport.

The delegation, during its stay, visited Mangyongdae, Panmunjom, the West Sea barrage and many places of Pyongyang and local areas.

Chang Chol Speaks at Madagascar Friendship Rally

SK2206044890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—A rally was held here Thursday to mark the 15th anniversary of the start of the socialist revolution and the 30th anniversary of the independence of Madagascar.

Vice-Premier and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol who is also chairman of the Korea-Madagascar Friendship Association, spoke first at the rally.

He said the independence and the start of socialist revolution in Madagascar were a token of the will of the Malagasy people to build a prosperous new society and historical events which opened a broader road to them for building a new life.

Chang Chol elaborated on the great achievements made by the Malagasy people through vigorous efforts to do away with the economic backwardness left over by the old society and lay the foundation of national industry along the socialist line set out in the socialist revolutionary charter.

The progress in the revolution of Madagascar and the great changes in the land of Madagascar are a fruition of the correct leadership and energetic activities of President Didier Ratsiraka and a brilliant result of the creative labour of the Malagasy people who are courageously forging ahead with a firm determination to shape their destiny by their own efforts, he added.

The Korean people, he stated, will strive as ever to develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries in all fields of politics, the economy and culture.

Elisabeth Robinson, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Malagasy Vanguard of revolution and vice-chairman of the People's National Assembly, who is heading the party workers delegation of Madagascar, spoke next.

She said the bonds of friendship between the two peoples are growing stronger and developing on the basis of the intimacy forged between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the wise leader President Didier Ratsiraka.

I am glad to say that the unique socialism of Korean style is a model, she noted, adding that such successful socialism gives courage to Madagascar and other countries defending the banner of socialism.

Pointing out that the United States has deployed more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea, stages "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers every year and intensifies the moves to create "two Koreas," she denounced such acts of the United States and strongly urged the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea.

She expressed warm support to the five-point policy of national reunification laid down by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

A congratulatory letter to Comrade Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, was adopted at the rally.

In the evening, the committee for cultural relations with Foreign Countries and the Korea-Madagascar Friendship Association gave a party at the People's Palace of Culture.

Vice-Premier Kim Yong-nam Leaves for Madagascar

SK2206110190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-premier and foreign minister, left here today to participate in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of independence of Madagasgar and the 15th anniversary of the start of the socialist revolution in that country as special envoy of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He was seen off at the airport by first Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kang Sok-chu and other officials concerned, Iranian Ambassador to Korea Hassan Dabir and councillor of the Chinese Embassy Chiang Zhengcai.

Kim Il-song Expresses Sympathy to Iran

SK2206104790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on June 21 sent a message of sympathy to President Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The message reads:

Upon the receipt of the sad news that heavy casualties and financial losses have been caused owing to the strong earthquake in the northern area of Iran on June 21, I would like to express my profound sympathy and consolation to you and, through you, to the inhabitants and bereft families in the damaged area. It is my conviction that the courageous and industrious people of Iran under your correct leadership will recover from the earthquake damages and stabilize the livelihood of the inhabitants in the suffered area at an earliest date.

Editorial Promotes Advantages of Socialism

SK2006104990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 20 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially calls for deepening the education of the party members and other working people in the advantages of socialism in Korea, the embodiment of the chuche idea.

The editorial quotes the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"The greatness of the chuche idea, the guiding ideology of our party, the invincibility of our people who have established chuche, and the advantages of our socialist system which is the embodiment of the chuche idea—these are the summary of our people's struggle for socialism, and it is precisely in them that our people take great pride and it is precisely from them that they derive their confidence in a brighter future."

The editorial notes:

As the building of socialism develops in depth and the enemy's moves against socialism get unscrupulous, it is very important to educate the people in a firm conviction of the advantages of socialism.

The important thing in intensifying education in socialism at present is to do this work in a deep-going way, not only with universal instances but also with the advantages of socialism of our own style built on the basis of the chuche idea.

Our socialism is the social foundation on which our people have the our-nation-first spirit. Only when the entire party members and working people are deeply conscious of the advantages of our unique socialism, can they live and work full of great pride and confidence in building a unique socialism without deviation, taking the great chuche idea as the guideline with fervent loyalty to the great leader and under the leadership of the great party.

As the imperialists make desperate efforts to execute their anti-socialist strategy, viciously slandering socialism, it is important to deeply imbue the entire people with a great pride in our socialism. Only then, the honour and dignity of our people who invariably defend the revolutionary banner of socialism, pulling through any storm and stress will be displayed more fully.

It is also important to educate people in the advantages of our socialism in a deep-going way not only theoretically but also in connection with the specific conditions of our country.

In order to do this work well, it is imperative to closely combine this education with education in the reactionary essence and corruption of capitalist society and the inevitability of its downfall.

Without a firm class position of showing sharpest contempt of the corrupt and ailing capitalist society, it is impossible to have confidence in the advantages of socialism.

We should educate the people to realise how preposterous and deceptive the imperialists' blatant propaganda about "crisis of socialism" and "prosperity" and "richness" of capitalist society is.

When the entire people have the staunch revolutionary will to defend the banner of socialism without any illusion about capitalism, the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration will go busted.

DPRK Socialism 'Most Superior Social System'

SK1906104990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 19 (KCNA)—The socialist system of Korea is the most superior social system in the world, said Abdul Hamid Nassir, chairman of the Lebanese Committee for the Translation and Publication of Works of Comrade Kim Il-song and chairman of the board of directors of the Mediterranean Publishing House of Lebanon.

In his statement June 12 praising the advantages of socialism in Korea, he said that the socialist system of Korea is a truly people-orientated one under which the popular masses are the genuine masters and everything serves the masses. The working people in Korea are provided by the state with stable jobs and all material and cultural conditions regarding for food, clothing and housing, he noted, and said: all the working people have stable jobs and participate in the creative work for society and themselves in accordance with their ability and have shares according to the results of their labour.

The results of labour of the working people in Korea are entirely turned to the common prosperity of society and the promotion of their own wellbeing, he said, adding:

Korea completely abolished the tax system in 1974.

The state supplies the working people with rice at a price next to nothing so that they may enjoy additional benefit.

The state also builds dwelling houses for the workers, office employees and co-op farmers.

In Korea all the people study through out their life with the right to learn under the compulsory free education system, and live a happy life, enjoying longevity, thanks to the free medical service and various other popular measures.

Indeed, the Korean people have no worries about their children's education and medical care.

The Korean people are vigorously striving for the complete victory of socialism, closely rallied in one mind and one purpose behind respected President Kim Il-song and the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il, he stressed.

WFDY Supports DPRK Reunification Policy

SK2106153890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—The Bureau of the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) in a statement issued on June 16 on the occasion of the June 25-July 27 month of anti-U.S. joint struggle appealed to its affiliated organizations and friendship organizations to continue solidarity activities in various ways for Korea's reunification and peace on the Korean peninsula.

The statement said:
The WFDY holds that if the Korean question is to be solved at an earliest date possible, the Armistice agreement must be replaced by a peace agreement, disarmament be realised, a non-aggression declaration adopted between the North and South of Korea, the Korean peninsula turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone, the barrier of division removed and free travel and complete opening realised between the North and the South.

We insist that the U.S. troops and their war equipment be withdrawn from South Korea without delay.

The WFDY takes this opportunity to reiterate its support and solidarity for the struggle of the people and youths of the DPRK to reunify the country independently and peacefully by means of dialogue and negotiation.

The WFDY considers the proposal of the DPRK for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo a most feasible, fair one for the reunification of Korea.

We oppose and reject the "two Koreas" policy of the United States and the No Tae-u "regime's" suppression of the democratic movement and strongly demand the immediate and unconditional release of Yim Su-kyong, Mun Kyu-hyon, Im Chong-sok and others.

Investment in Coal, Ore Mines Increased

SK2006104190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Pyongyang June 20 (KCNA)—Korea increased investments in mining industry last year and powerfully pushed ahead with the development of coal and ore mines.

The December 16 coal mine and other coal mines and some 30 pits were built last year.

Hwang Se-yong, director of the Coal Guidance Department of the Ministry of Coal Industry, said that the Hwapung coal mine in the western region and the Hamyon, Soksong and Kukdong coal mines in the northern region would be commissioned this year.

The development projects of the Chongpyong mine which will produce large quantities of ores containing alloy elements and the Sinpa youth mine with an annual capacity of hundreds of thousands of tons of ore were completed last year.

The expansion projects of the Sunchon District coal mining complex and other coal mines and the expansion project of the Musan mining complex which will produce 10 million tons of iron headings for the present and 15 million tons in the future were also stepped up and some 20 objects were completed in the main last year.

The expansion projects of mines including the Komdok mining complex to create about 120 cutting faces this year are also progressing fast.

Prospectors struck some 100 veins of ores last year, 40 of which are candidate sites for new coal and ore mines.

A coal deposit of millions of tons was found in Paekam District, Yanggang Province and a coal deposit of tens of millions of tons in Kangdong District in the central western part of the country. A large graphite mine is being developed in Hungsang District of South Hwanghae Province.

As a result, a bright prospect for largely increasing the coal and ore output has opened this year.

South Korea

South To Propose Postponing Inter-Korean Talks

SK2206030090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean National Assembly is expected to suggest that parliaments of South and North Korea contact on July 19 for talks on preparing the proposed inter-Korean parliamentary conference.

The Southern delegation headed by Chae Mun-sik agreed to make a counter proposal to have the 11th preliminary talk on July 19, after the ongoing special session of the National Assembly ends on July 16. The Northern side recently proposed that the 11th contact be held on July 12.

In a meeting of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party's key functionaries, Chae said, "There is no reason for us not to accept North Korea's proposal for the preliminary talks. We plan to propose to put off the date of the meeting a week as the National Assembly is in session."

Defense Minister on North's Nuclear Ability

SK2206124590 Seoul YONHAP in English 1239 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea may be able to produce nuclear weapons in mid-1990s, South Korean Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun said Friday.

"North Korea's nuclear reprocessing facilities in Yongpyon are expected to be completed within this year. The North will likely be able to manufacture nuclear weapons in mid-1990s," Yi told the National Assembly Defense Committee. But he did not reveal further details. His remarks contradicted wire services reports that the North will be able to produce nuclear weapons within six months. [passage omitted]

Yi also said the Government is willing to discuss disarmament between South and North Korea in line with its efforts for building military and political confidence. He said the disarmament topics could be discussed in a proposed high-level political and military meeting between prime ministers from both sides. The minister said the Government will set up a coordinating committee for arms control between Seoul and Pyongyang to flexibly cope with changes in North Korea's attitude toward the South.

Private Council To Promote Inter-Korean Trade

SK2106122390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1208 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will set up a private trade promotion council in the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) to activate trade exchanges with North Korea, a trade and industry ministry report said Thursday.

The private council will study ways for developing inter-Korean trade and provide businesses with information on economic and trade exchanges with Pyongyang, according to the report submitted to the National Assembly Trade and Industry Committee. The plan was based on its view that the inter-Korean trade should be aimed not at short-term economic profit but at forming an economic commonwealth and restore national identity between the divided Koreas, the report said.

The South is also considering adopting a deferred-payment export system to help export to the North such items as industrial facilities, the report said. The Government will also ease restriction on imports of coals and agricultural products from North Korea as part of moves to promote trade with the northern half, the report said.

Two-way trade between South and North Korea has virtually been suspended for more than four decades since the division of the Korean peninsula, with the South importing 6.49 million U.S. dollars worth of goods and exporting 83,000 dollars as of May, according to the report.

North Rejects Hyundai's Gift of Equipment, Cars

SK2206012290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 22 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (REUTER)—North Korea appears to have rejected delivery of construction equipment and cars sent as a gift from south Korea.

A ship carrying the cargo donated to the north by south Korean industrial giant Hyundai was heading back to Japan without unloading, Japanese shipping sources said Thursday.

"The ship left Nampo (in north Korea) last week, with the cargo aboard, and is now on her way back to Japan via the Chinese port of Dalian," one source said.

The Panamanian-registered Tokyo No. 5 arrived in Nampo, on north Korea's West Sea coast, from Kobe, Japan, June 8.

It was the second attempt by Hyundai founder Chong Chu-yong, born in what is now north Korea, to follow through on a pledge of help to the reclusive northern leadership made during his ice-breaking visit to Pyongyang in 1989.

The shipment included two cars, a bulldozer, a loader, an excavator, a forklift truck and a dump truck.

The statement carried in May by the official Pyongyang news agency also announced cancellation of an agreement, which the Hyundai leader had signed during his visit, for the joint development of scenic Kumgang Mountain, just north of the tense border.

Romanian Dissident Sees Democracy Move in North

SK2206022690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (AFP)—North Korean President Kim Il-song has greeted the new leadership in Bucharest, but he faces a challenge from an architect of Romania's revolt that toppled his old hard-line ally Nicolae Ceaucescu.

Kim, 78, re-elected last month to the presidency created for him in 1972, sent greetings to Ion Iliescu on Wednesday when he was sworn in as president of Romania, the Korean Central News Agency said Thursday.

"The message expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Romanian peoples will continue developing in the future," the official news agency monitored here said.

But Silviu Brucan, formerly number two in Romania's National Salvation Front that assumed power after a popular uprising last December, said he would visit Moscow next week with "an open letter" demanding that Kim reform his totalitarian society or face the same fate as Ceaucescu.

A professor at Bucharest University, he surprised the world by issuing the letter a week ago in the South Korean capital of Seoul, saying "anti-government figures" would soon start a pro-democracy movement in the North.

"It's a very risky business," Brucan told reporters in Tokyo Wednesday between his meetings with Japanese leaders. "But my hope is that now (the) eyes of the world are focused on North Korea and that it would be difficult for them to take repressive measures now."

Invited by Romania's ambassador to Tokyo, he said he is visiting here to ask the Japanese government to help democratize North Korea.

Regional Initiatives Toward DPRK Viewed

SK2206071290 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 19 Jun 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Brisk Diplomacy Around the Korean Peninsula—What We See As We Watch Japan and Philippines Approaching Pyongyang"]

[Text] Brisk diplomacy of the countries surrounding the Korean peninsula, as well as the ROK's northern diplomacy and North Korea's southern policy, are underway.

All these moves active in East Asia—rapid development of ROK-Soviet relations, U.S.-North Korean contact, Japanese-North Korean approach, and North Korean-Philippine moves for diplomatic relations—can be seen as forming a new order of an era of detente, with the cold war era receding.

Amid all this, we ought to note the active reaction being made to North Korea's southern diplomacy, which has not been easily visible behind the loud drum beat of the ROK's northern diplomacy and the ROK-Soviet summit talks. The Japan-North Korea relations seemed at a stalemate over the issue of the Fujisan Maru crew's release, a case that has been unresolved for the last six years. With the remarks by Prime Minister Kaifu at the parliament on 15 June on Japan's willingness to "recognize the North Korean regime" and to "contact it without preconditions," however, it seems Japanese-North Korean relations have set off on a journey to diplomatic relations.

This means the Japanese foreign policy is straying from the basic ROK-Japan treaty which stipulates: "We confirm the ROK is the only legitimate government on the Korean peninsula." To this point, the Japanese Government gives awkward interpretation, stating: "The basic nature of the ROK Government is confirmed in the ROK-Japan basic treaty referring to the UN resolutions, and, therefore, it does not affect Japanese-North Korean relations." We have not opposed the Japanese Government's effort to improve its relations with North Korea. On the contrary, we are hoping Japan will help induce North Korea to start dialogue with the South, openness and reform through improving relations with the North.

What we should note is Japan sees the Korean peninsula from a different angle now, that this is a stern reality of the international community, and that it is Japan's foreign policy seeking its own interest.

North Korea, on its part, is hinting at the possibility of releasing the Fujisan Maru crew and showing willingness to accept the visit to North Korea by the Liberal Democratic Party delegation, including former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru. North Korea is active in its attempt to improve relations with Japan, urging the Japanese Government to rectify its "thoroughly pro-ROK policy" and "hostile to North Korea policy."

The rapid development of North Korean-Philippine relations is a surprising move. Kim Tal-hyon, North Korean vice premier and vice minister of external economy, expressed North Korea's willingness to establish diplomatic relations with the Philippines in his official letter to Philippine President Aquino. North Korea has provided weapons for the New People's Army (NPA), the communist rebels who took up arms against the Aquino government.

Therefore, the Aquino government is "the people's enemy" to North Korea. Yet North Korea officially expressed support to the government of "the people's enemy" and is asking for diplomatic relations with it, and Aquino says her government is reviewing it.

We realize yet again the tremendous changes around us, such as the abrupt approach to North Korea by the Philippines and Japan, are totally prompted by the pursuit of national interest by the countries involved. When the United States sought normalization of relations with China in the 1970's, it did not consult with Japan, its ally, at all, giving Japan an enormous shock.

The diplomacy of a state should not be emotional. However, our northern diplomacy seems to be emotion- and publicity-ridden rather than based on level-headed calculation and pursuit of practical interest. As Sir Harold Nicholson, classical scholar of the study of diplomacy, stressed, it is high time we needed multidimensional "organized diplomatic arts."

We now ponder again our diplomatic posture of the receding cold war era, watching the brisk diplomacy by countries surrounding North and South Korea, such as the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union.

Pyongyang's Request for Talks Raises 'Suspicion'

SK2206013090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 22 Jun 90 p 2

[News analysis by staff reporter Kang Song-chol]

[Text] Pyongyang has suddenly offered to resume talks with Seoul, touching off speculation on its real motives.

The proposal, presented to Seoul Wednesday, came just a week after the north announced the suspension of all channels of dialogue with the south.

North Korea watchers generally agree that the about-face is related with recent developments on and around the Korean Peninsula, particularly following the summit earlier this month between President No Tae-u and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

They say the north may have made the surprise move out of desperate efforts to avoid international diplomatic isolation and to head off pressure to open up.

Pyongyang also may aim to create confusion in the south with regard to discussions on inter-Korea and unification policies.

Despite such lingering suspicions, officials in the south expressed their willingness to positively accommodate the north's offer, raising chances for the inter-Korea dialogue to start again in a few weeks.

It remains in doubt, however, whether the south and the north would be able to produce concrete results conducive to expediting exchanges and reducing tension on the peninsula.

As in past negotiations between the two sides, the foremost difficulty may arise over whether to give priority to political military matters or humanitarian projects.

The south has traditionally given priorities to humanitarian projects such as the reunion of families dispersed in south and north Korea. The north, in the meantime, has consistently called for the settlement of political and military matters.

There also lies a wide gap between the two sides in the method of conducting negotiations: Seoul prefers a step-by-step approach, while Pyongyang favors a lump-sum settlement.

North Korea watchers say the north may have judged that it can no longer disregard increasing pressure to open up, especially one from its allies, the Soviet Union and China.

They say there are signs that the north has recently been urged by Moscow and Beijing to resume dialogue with the south.

Pyongyang may also have been prompted to reconsider its position toward the south, after witnessing some developments, including the No-Gorbachev meeting and the visit to Seoul in late May by Chinese senior leader Deng Xiaoping's second son.

The about-face in the north's position may also be related with its efforts to improve relations with Western countries, particularly the United States.

The north showed a conciliatory gesture to the United States last month by returning the remains of five U.S. servicemen killed during the Korean War.

But United States has been maintaining that Pyongyang should first resume talks with Seoul before seeking expanded contacts with Washington.

The north's surprise proposal may also be designed to help encourage the activities of political dissidents and some opposition politicians in the south, who have been sympathetic to some of Pyongyang's proposals such as the offer for south and north Korea to share a single membership in the United Nations.

Government officials predict that the inter-Korea talks will soon resume, but express doubt about whether they would make any meaningful progress.

They say they cannot but be suspicious of the north's motives, given the manner in which Pyongyang offered the proposal for the resumption of dialogue.

They note that the north gave only a week for the south to prepare for resumed talks, while it is customary for the two sides to give at least one month's notice.

Such a manner by Pyongyang cannot but raise suspicion that the north is again seeking only propaganda effects, the officials say.

But they say they are ready to show maximum flexibility in conducting talks with the south to produce meaningful results.

Pyongyang's 'Faltering Attitude' Shows Change

SK2206025090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 Jun 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Pyongyang's Inconsistent Overtures"]

[Text] North Korea's sudden proposal for the resumption of inter-Korean talks is welcome but somewhat embarrassing. The North's overture, in the first place, is dubious in respect of its motivation and purpose, representing an abrupt shift in its strategy toward the South.

Only a week ago, the Pyongyang regime refused any kind of inter-Korean dialogue, denouncing what it claimed to be Seoul's toadyish behavior, in apparent reference to the recent San Francisco summit between President No Tae-u and his Soviet counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev.

However, there seems to be little change in the North Korean attitude toward inter-Korean problems. A Pyongyang telephone message sent to Seoul was disappointingly provocative, calling upon the government to "reflect on its own position and to account for flunkeyism and anti-national conduct, a stumbling block to dialogue and reunification."

The North Korean message thus attests to the fact that there has been no change in its hostile position toward Seoul, and that it is still resentful of the No-Gorbachev meeting. What prompted the irritated Pyongyang to come out with the new proposal?

There is little denying that Pyongyang has shifted its strategy not willingly but because it was obliged to by international and domestic necessity.

In its relationship with the Soviet Union, the North Korean leadership has refrained from frontal confrontations, fearful of possible Soviet counter-actions. Moreover, Pyongyang would have found it difficult to repulse any pressure for long from Moscow for the resumption of the South-North Korean talks.

It is to be noted that the Pyongyang overture came shortly after a PRAVDA report, quoting Yevgeniy Primakov, a member of Gorbachev's Presidential Council as saying that the Soviet government favored the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula and the strengthening of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

At the same time, the Pyongyang leadership would not be so foolish as to refuse to see the rising mood of rapprochement between Seoul and Beijing expected with the upcoming Asian Games to be held in the Chinese capital this fall. And the government has made it clear it will positively pursue a policy to improve relations with Beijing with the acceleration of personnel and commodity exchanges.

On the positive side, the North has a need to improve ties with the United States and Japan, allies of Seoul, in an attempt to offset the Seoul-Moscow summit and other diplomatic achievement involving the South's Nordpolitik.

We support any efforts on the part of the United States and Japan to improve relations with North Korea with increased exchanges, excepting those that help Pyongyang with its bellicose aims of course, since this may help Pyongyang come out of isolation.

Before anything else, however, the ulterior North Korean schemes need to be clearly recognized for what they are. Pyongyang announced its unilateral suspension of the multi-tier inter-Korean talks in February, with as pretext the ROK-U.S. joint military exercise, Team Spirit. And the North again precluded the then expected inter-Korean talks last Wednesday, in protest against the No-Gorbachev summit.

During the week-long interval since last Wednesday, there does not seem to have been any sign of a basic situational change in the North, only a switch of its strategy. Pyongyang must have felt the need for a counter-offensive with the propagandistic call for dialogue resumption ultimately to cope with Seoul's diplomatic triumphs.

On the domestic front, the Pyongyang regime may be intending to disrupt the reunification movement here, while promoting support for its own unity policy characterized by a recent proposal for a pan-national reunification convention. With these hidden tactics in mind, the Seoul side must be ready to sit with the North

Koreans in quest of the far-reaching goal of national unification. Pyongyang's faltering attitude itself shows that a change is in the making despite a desperate endeavor not to change.

Editorial Says North Cannot Be Trusted

SK2206021890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 22 Jun 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Truth About the Korean War"]

[Text] The approach of the 40th anniversary of the 1950-53 Korean War has occasioned a number of scholarly forums and published interviews with figures who had a hand in the conflict, shedding light on the origin of and responsibility for the fratricidal war which devastated the entire Korean Peninsula and hardened its division into a perpetual and volatile confrontation.

It is instructive to note that the disinformation spread by north Koreans and their former Communist allies as to the outbreak of the Korean War has been repeatedly exposed and refuted by none other than those who played a part in starting the war and manufacturing the disinformation.

The Western world has not questioned north Korea's provocative role, aided and abetted by its northern patrons in the Soviet Union and Communist China. But some fellow travelers of north Korea and naive skeptics tried to hold south Korea accountable for initiating the war on flimsy and false grounds.

The official Soviet media quoted a number of historians and former military officers who admitted the systematic assistance and approval given by the Kremlin, then under the thumb of Stalin, to north Korea's Kim Il-song to enable and encourage his surprise invasion of the south.

Three seminars were held this week in Seoul on the Korean War. Most academics in attendance, both Korean and foreign, presented a consensus accepted by all sane people that Communist north Korea was the villain and south Korea was the victim.

This self-evident historical truth is further reinforced by the latest revelations by a few ethnic Koreans in the Soviet Union visiting Seoul. These leading figures of the Korean community in the Soviet Union defected from north Korea in protest against Kim's dictatorship.

Among the 18 north Korean expatriates are a former general in the north Korean People's Army, vice ministers of culture and home affairs and a senior newspaper editor. Their candid accounts of personal involvement in the preparation for and prosecution of the attack on the south defy repudiation.

The treachery of Pyongyang holding out the olive branch on the eve of the Korean War should remain a telling reminder that north Korea cannot be trusted and dealt with in good faith. It has been two-faced all along, distorting facts and hiding the truth. The sudden reversal Wednesday of its negative stand to foreign interest in inter-Korea dialogue must not put Seoul off its guard. The truth about June 25, 1950, is worth remembering.

North 'at a Loss' Over Improving Relations

SK2206024290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 Jun 90 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Hak-Nim: "Pyongyang Shows Signs of Accepting Rapid Change"]

[Text] A delegate to the inter-Korean parliamentary contacts welcomed a surprise proposal by North Korea Wednesday for the resumption of talks as a signal that the North has begun to accept rapid changes surrounding the Korean Peninsula highlighted by the first summit between South Korea and the Soviet Union earlier this month.

In an interview with The Korea Times yesterday, Rep. Pak Kwan-yong of the ruling party said, "The North's unilateral refusal of all kinds of dialogue with the South about a week ago and its surprise action now shows that it is at a loss over how to respond to the rapid improvement in relations between Seoul and Moscow, and Beijing, two longtime allies of the North.

"Now, North Korea appears to have concluded that it has to reopen dialogue with South Korea in order to help create an atmosphere for an improvement in relations with the United States and Japan," said Pak.

About a week after the summit between President No Tae-u and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in San Francisco on June 4, North Korea boycotted all contacts with the South, harshly criticizing the event as an attempt "to perpetuate the Korean split."

To South Koreans surprise, North Korea Wednesday suggested that preliminary contacts resume for full-dress parliamentary conference and premiers' talks, in a telephone message to the South.

"Witnessing South Korea's improving relations with the Soviet Union and China at a rapid pace, North Korea no doubt wishes to increase contacts with the United States and Japan," said Pak. The 52-years-old third-term lawmaker is concurrently serving as chairman of the special committee of the National Assembly on unification affairs.

Pak said he had heard that North Korea suggested upgrading relations with the United States to the ambassadorial level when Gaston Sigur, former U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, visited Pyongyang recently.

The U.S. administration demanded the return of U.S. servicemen killed during the Korean War as a precondition and North Korea actually returned the remains of five soldiers in late May. North Korea and the United

States have no diplomatic ties, but senior officials of the two governments have held contacts in Beijing.

Pak opined that North Korea will have no choice but to adopt a reformist line, though gradual and partial, because of its internal problems.

Pak said that North Korean citizens are increasingly awakened to the "thriving" life in the capitalist West by the inflow of western products mainly from Japan and China. "Now, North Korean leaders have to meet the rising demands of citizens there," he said.

He went on, Kim Il-song has maintained his grip on power for more than 40 years thanks to his alleged independence struggle and his charismatic authority. However, his elder son and heir-apparent Kim Chong-il has no authority to succeed to the authoritarian rule. He will have to secure some legitimacy by improving the quality of life of North Korean citizens.

"That is the reason why Kim Chong-il is emphasizing 'technical renovation' and is eager to introduce foreign technology and capital," Pak analyzed.

He said that the North Korean move to entice foreign capital and technology will entail the opening of the North to the international community.

"Against this background, we should note the recent North Korean proposal for arms reduction talks which appeared to be 'very flexible,'" said Pak. North Korea has thus far insisted on the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea first to enable the initiation of arms reduction talks. Withdrawing from its earlier stance, it indicated that it is ready to shelve its demand for the American troops withdrawal, he said.

He said, "North Korea may feel it urgent to reduce the excessive military spending which amounted to 21.5 percent of the GNP in 1987."

Scale, Method of 'Team Spirit' May Be Reviewed

SK2206085490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0835 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea may review the scale and method of "Team Spirit," an annual military exercise it conducts jointly with the United States, in an effort to build confidence on the divided Korean peninsula, Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun said Friday [22 Jun].

"With regard to the Team Spirit, we will flexibly respond to any visible and concrete changes in North Korea's strategies toward the South. We are planning to review the scale and method of the exercise to enhance the efficiency of the drill and to build confidence between South and North," Yi told the National Assembly Defense Committee.

He said his ministry would continuously strive to build confidence between the two halves of the Korean peninsula by opening the military exercise to North Korea, China, the Soviet Union and the four member countries of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission overseeing the 1953 Korean Armistice.

South Korea invited North Korea and its communist allies to observe the defense-oriented drill since a few years ago, but failed to attract observers from Pyongyang.

Two Polish Army officers watched the South Korea-U.S. defense drill in March to become the first communist military personnel doing so.

Minister Yi predicted North Korea would complete the nuclear reprocessing facilities in Yongbyon, 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang, within this year.

Science-Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo said earlier this month that North Korea has a 30,000 kw-class experimental nuclear reactor at Yongbyon, but questioned if the North is equipped with processing facilities for high purity plutonium.

USSR Asks Atomic Experts To Visit Chernobyl

SK2206073290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Soviet Union has proposed that South Korea send two atomic experts to join an international survey team to investigate the ecological and other impacts of the nuclear accident in Chernobyl in 1986, officials at the Science and Technology Ministry said Friday [22 Jun].

The Soviet Union forwarded the proposal through Hans Blix, secretary-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], to South Korean Science and Technology Minister Chong Kum-mo during an IAEA board of directors' meeting in Vienna last week, the officials said. The investigation team will be composed of about 10 experts in August from the countries invited, they said.

Meanwhile, the South Korean Government has conveyed its intention to participate in a Soviet plan to inaugurate an international atomic energy research institute in Chernobyl. The Soviet Union has asked IAEA members to participate in the plan. The proposed institute will study the causes of the nuclear accident, analysis of damage of the nuclear reactor, impact on environment, methods to remove radioactive pollution and emergency measures.

Correspondent Reviews PRC Position on South

SK2106115590 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 11 Jun 90 p 3

[Article by correspondent Yi Yong-kun from Beijing: "Drastic Change Is Hardly Expected in South Korean-Chinese Relations"]

[Text] An unnamed source in Beijing said on 11 June it is highly possible China would not drastically change its policy toward South Korea in the next two to three years, and that, even if South Korea and the Soviet Union soon were to establish formal diplomatic relations, this would have no great impact on developing South Korean-Chinese relations, at least for the foreseeable future.

The source stated that, while China considers stability on the Korean peninsula to be directly linked with its own national interest, it would not seek a diplomatic change that would create serious disadvantages for North Korea or push it into a corner when the North and South Korean balance in foreign relations could be disturbed, following the rapid development of ROK-USSR relations.

Noting that China, due to its domestic political situation, now is further cementing its diplomatic ties with such orthodox socialist nations as Cuba and, in particular, has further strengthened its political relations of alliance with North Korea since the Tiananmen Square incident last year, the person said there is no reason for China to drastically shift to a foreign policy different from its existing one. He added China attaches great importance to the Korean peninsula, as shown by its intervention in the Korean war.

The source also said that, because they are presently paying attention only to domestic politics following the Tiananmen Square incident, and because they think political and social stability at home is most important, Chinese leaders currently are in a difficult position to move toward working out instant political and diplomatic countermeasures, even if it is economically necessary regarding the Korean peninsula issue.

The person added that, even if South Korea and the Soviet Union were to rapidly develop their relations, China, while continuing to watch carefully, neither would work out swift countermeasures nor hurry to develop the ROK-Chinese relations into diplomatic relations for some time.

Another source, saying China has severed its diplomatic relations with those countries which maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan, because it refuses to accept "two-China" or "one-China and two-governments" policies, said China fears an excuse may be provided for foreign countries to restore their relations with Taiwan if China were to recognize two governments on the Korean peninsula by establishing diplomatic relations with South Korea.

The person said China would not feel a serious burden in improving its relations with South Korea if the North and South would agree on some principle of dialogue, and added China urges North-South dialogue first be realized and their relations improved. The person added the Soviet Union has no domestic political problems such as the ones China faces for national reunification and adhering to socialism.

The source noted China's great interest at least in developing ROK-Chinese economic exchanges. He said the more than $3 billion trade that already exists between South Korea and China would not be surpassed in the near future, even if South Korea were to establish formal relations with the Soviet Union, because the need for mutual economic exchanges is great for both, as the trade volume has attested, which has constantly increased even when only indirect trade was allowed.

Noting the fact only six percent of the Chinese negotiations for South Korean investment has succeeded, the person said the ratio of success is particularly low in negotiations with South Korea when compared with other countries: the United States, Japan, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. Saying Chinese authorities think South Korea's investment in China would not drastically increase, even if diplomatic relations are established between the two countries, the person added Chinese authorities seem to be skeptical regarding whether the establishment of ROK-Chinese diplomatic relations indeed would be in China's national interest. An observer in Beijing said the Soviet Foreign Ministry officials are likely to give an account of the ROK-USSR summit as well when they visit China to brief them on the U.S.-Soviet summit results. Noting the fact the Chinese press at least has reported that the ROK-USSR summit was held, though there was no comment, the person concluded the Chinese side would not put a sharp brake on the ROK-USSR approach, even if it has to consider North Korea's stand.

As for the prospects for a ROK-Chinese summit, the person noted the fact the the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman on 7 June again ruled out the possibility of establishing formal diplomatic relations between the two countries. The person said South Korea appears to be too hasty in seeking to establish diplomatic relations with China.

Also noting the fact Chinese State Council Spokesman Yuan Mu, in his 5 June interview with a Japanese television service, stated there is no change in the Chinese side's stand toward accelerating the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula and urging bilateral North-South dialogue, and that China hopes the development of the situation on the Korean peninsula will contribute to peace and security in Asia and the world, the person foresaw there is a possibility China would, at least, seek to spur expanding private-level cultural and economic exchanges and gradually improve its relations with South Korea.

The observer analyzed there would be no drastic shift in the pace of the development of ROK-Chinese relations, unless the Chinese leadership is reorganized and great progress is made in North-South dialogue.

Paraguay To Cooperate on Seoul's UN Entry

SK2206010090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0050 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Paraguay have agreed to closely cooperate for Seoul's entry into the United Nations in a foreign ministers' meeting here Thursday.

Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and his Paraguayan counterpart, Luis Maria Argana, also decided to continue talks on concluding agreements on investment guarantee and criminal extradition at an early date. Argana asked for Seoul's financial support for his country's economic development and Choe said Asuncion's detailed and reasonable request for long-term loans would be given inter-ministerial consideration.

Choe said his government was studying the possibility of rendering communications equipment and other items as requested by Paraguay. Paraguayans will be invited to Korea for training in sericulture, export promotion and land development projects, and Korean experts in economic planning will be sent to Paraguay, he added.

Choe asked Asuncion's favor in giving legal status to some 1,000 Koreans who had entered the country illegally, and Argana promised he would consult the matter with other government authorities. Argana came to Seoul Wednesday accompanying Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez on his three-day official visit. The Paraguayan visitors will leave Korea Friday afternoon.

Government Welcomes Results of Burmese Election

SK2206032290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0225 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government Friday welcomed the results of the recent general election in Myanmar and hoped a new government will be formed in a peaceful and democratic way.

"The government of the Republic of Korea welcomes the fact that the multi-party election recently held in Myanmar was conducted in a free and fair atmosphere as the Myanmar Government had pledged," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Chong Ui-yong said in a comment.

"We expect that a new government will be formed in a peaceful and democratic way in conformity with the election returns which were officially announced by the Myanmar authorities," he said. Noting that Korea and Myanmar have promoted cooperation in every field since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1975, the spokesman expressed the hope that the friendly and cooperative ties between the two countries will be further strengthened in the future.

Economic Exchanges With Mongolia Established

SK2206075490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0748 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—Economic exchanges between South Korea and Mongolia are in the offing with the launching here Friday of a panel devoted to initiating economic cooperation with Mongolia.

The Mongolia committee was created by Korean enterprises wishing to do business with Mongolia under the wing of the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK), a government-approved economic window to socialist countries, IPECK officials said.

During the meeting, where representatives of 27 businesses including general trading firms and the first Korean ambassador to Mongolia, Kwon Yong-su, attended, it was also decided to send an economic mission to Mongolia soon for the promotion of establishment of the Korea-Mongolia Civil Economic Cooperation Committee.

Meanwhile, the state-run Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) plans to dispatch its officials to Mongolia in August at the latter's request to study the feasibility of opening a trade outlet in that country with which South Korea set up diplomatic ties on March 26.

Embassy in Namibia Opened 18 Jun, Envoy Named

SK2106065090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0645 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 21 (YONHAP)—South Korea opened its embassy in Namibia on Monday [18 Jun], the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Counselor Sin Sung-chol has been in Windhoek, capital of Namibia, as charge d'affaires, to prepare the opening of the embassy, the ministry said. The two nations established diplomatic ties on March 21. Song Hak-won, designated envoy to Namibia, will soon go to Windhoek, to take up his post.

Government Denies Scheme To Control Broadcasting

SK2206033690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—The Information Ministry Thursday denied a claim by union leaders of broadcasting companies that the government's plan to restructure the broadcasting industry was part of a government scheme to put it under its control.

In a statement, the ministry said the government's initiatives to reshape the existing broadcasting industry was based on a long-term plan to cope with problems stemming from the compulsory integration of broadcasting companies in 1980 and positively counter changes affecting the broadcasting media industry in the 1990s. The statement said it has nothing to do with what the unions of the three broadcasting companies say are related to a "political schedule."

The matter of overhauling the broadcasting industry has often been raised by academic, press and political circles since November 1987 when current broadcasting law was enacted, the statement said. Earlier Thursday, union leaders of the state-run Korean Broadcasting System, Munhwa TV-Radio Broadcasting Corp. and Christian Broadcasting System held a press conference calling for the government to scrap the government plan on the ground that it was a plot to control the broadcasting industry.

Doctor Draws Prison Term for Aiding Dissident

SK1606001990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] A 26-year-old medical doctor drew an 18-month prison term on conviction of providing assistance to dissident coed Yim Su-kyong, who is now in jail for her unauthorized trip to north Korea.

The Seoul Appellate Court yesterday found Kim Chin-yop, a doctor at the Ilsin Catholic Hospital in Pusan, guilty of violating the National Security Law. The court also ruled that Kim's civil rights be suspended for one and a half years.

He was sentenced to two years in jail along with the two-year suspension of civil rights in a lower court.

Last August Kim was arrested for introducing a leader of the radical student group Chondaehyop [National Council of university Student Representatives] to an anti-Seoul organization in Europe, which arranged for Yim to make the clandestine trip to north Korea to attend a leftist international festival in Pyongyang. Yim was recently sentenced to five years in prison in the appellate court.

Assembly Speaker Emphasizes Inter-Party Dialogue

SK2106014890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0116 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 21 (YONHAP)—Debate on the amendment of the Constitution to introduce a parliamentary cabinet system will be kicked off when mutual trust has been restored between the ruling and opposition parties and a broad popular consensus formed on the issue, the National Assembly speaker said Wednesday.

Noting that he personally favors the parliamentary cabinet system, Speaker Pak Chun-kyu told the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) that lack of trust (between the ruling and opposition parties) raises doubts that the ruling camp tries to enforce dual-executive cabinet system in which the president and prime minister share power or one-party dictatorship through the amendment of the Constitution.

Pak also emphasized that the issue of rewriting the Constitution should not plunge the nation into confusion.

Touching on a bill governing local autonomy, Pak said that full dialogue is necessary between the ruling and opposition camps for the bill to pass the National Assembly smoothly during the ongoing assembly session, hinting the bill may be passed at the September regular National Assembly session.

The opposition's demands that political parties be allowed to put up candidates in local elections, and that heads of local governments be chosen through elections simultaneously could be met through dialogue, Pak said.

New Vice Minister, Mayor, Governors, Appointed

SK2106061890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0548 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 21 (YONHAP)—Kang Hyon-uk, governor of North Cholla Province, was appointed vice energy and resources minister Thursday. Kang replaced Chang Sang-hyon, who was named vice transportation minister.

Yi Che-chang, vice transportation minister, was appointed to be governor of Kyonggi Province, and Kim U-hyon, head of the National Police Headquarters, was made governor of North Kyongsang Province.

Sin Yong-kuk, deputy administrator of the National Railroad Administration, was promoted to head the National Railroad Administration, and Yi Hyo-kae, assistant home minister, replaced Choe In-ki as mayor of Kwangju City. Choe was made governor of South Cholla Province.
Other appointments include:
—Choe Yong-pok, director general of the Home Ministry's Civil

Defense Headquarters, to be governor of North Cholla Province.
—Yi Chong-kuk, director of the Seoul Metropolitan Police Bureau, to be promoted to direct the national police headquarters.
—Kim Won-hwan, fourth deputy director of the National Police Headquarters, to be director of the Seoul Metropolitan Police.

Exporters Plan Automation, Facility Investment

SK2206033090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0219 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea' major export industries are putting emphasis of their facility investments this year more on the plans for automation and maintenance of existing production facilities rather than on those for development of new products or expansion of existing production facilities.

According to a survey conducted recently by the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) on 2,700 manufacturers of 108 major export goods in 32 export industries, the business firms questioned are planning to invest a total of 11.729 trillion won (about 16.52 billion U.S. dollars) in the facilities sector this year.

Of the total, the heavy chemical industry sector claimed some 80 percent, showing a 21.6 percent growth rate over last year, whereas the light industry sector saw a relatively low growth rate of 13.9 percent.

The survey showed that the share of plans for developing new products and expanding existing facilities dwindled to 62.6 percent, down 3.9 percentage points, while that of investments for automation projects grew to 10.5 percent from last year's 8.6 percent. The share of the investments for maintenance of facilities also grew.

Analysts said the survey also reflected the intensity of the fianancial difficulties facing the concerns this year. The self-reliance rate in the capital supplies remained at 29.8 percent, up 5 percentage points, with 3.5 trillion won while their reliance on external sources topped 8.2 trillion won, or 70.2 percent of all, representing a 26.7 percent growth rate.

The average growth rate of wage was projected to be around 11.4 percent this year, a sharp fall from the average 17.9 percent registered over the past three years. Majority of the business firms polled, or 73.3 percent, said the competitiveness of their products has recently suffered a setback.

Industrial 'Peace' Seen as Labor Disputes Drop

SK2206034690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0121 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—Industrial peace is permeating the South Korean industry, which reported 205 disputes in the first five months of the year compared with 993 in the same period last year, according to government and industry statistics.

Settlements were reached in 73 percent of the disputes.

By industry, 158 disputes were reported in the manufacturing sector, 15 in the transportation and nine in the mining sectors, the statistics showed.

Wage negotiations also go much favorably this year.

A total of 2,915 companies, or 43 percent of the 6,780 firms employing 100 workers or more, have reached wage accords with the average increase rate being 8.8 percent, well below last year's 17.8 percent.

The average wage increase is 7.3 percent for clerical workers and 10.2 percent for blue collar workers.

Burma

NLD Wants To Talk About Transfer of Power

BK2106134490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1231 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Rangoon, June 21 (AFP)—The opposition National League for Democracy (NLD), which swept polls here just weeks ago, has asked Burma's ruling junta to open talks on "a smooth and speedy transfer of power," a party spokesman said. A request for talks would be sent to the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) by the end of the week, NLD Spokesman U Kyi Maung said after an executive committee meeting at party headquarters here Wednesday [20 June]. "Ways must be sought to ensure a smooth and speedy transfer of power," Mr. Kyi Maung said.

The NLD, which won a landslide victory in the country's first multi-party general elections in three decades on May 27, is believed to have won about three-quarters of 485 parliamentary seats. Mr. Kyi Maung called for talks between NLD and government leaders "without preconditions" on all matters "pertaining to the transfer of power at the earliest opportunity," adding that such talks should be "guided by the spirit of national reconciliation."

Citing an election commission statement, the state-run WORKING PEOPLES' DAILY newspaper said Thursday that candidates from 480 of 485 constituencies had been officially confirmed as of Wednesday. Bad weather had prevented results from five constituencies, in the remote areas of Kachin State and Sagaing Divisions in the north, from reaching the commission, it said. "A chain of human relays overland," brought in when military helicopters failed to reached the remote constituencies, were "disrupted by landslides and by bridges being swept away by raging torrents causing unavoidable delay," the paper said. A final tally would be announced as soon as the results reached the Burmese capital, it added.

Mr. Kyi Maung said he hoped for an "early response" from the SLORC, which came to power after crushing a national student-led democracy movement in September 1988.

The SLORC has said it would hand over power only after the new government drafts a "strong constitution." SLORC Chairman General Saw Maung told a committee on modern Burmese history earlier this week that a constitution was "as important as life itself" and should "not be drafted in a hurry." He implied that Burma's 1947 constitution was aimed at meeting conditions set by the British before granting independence to the country, and was therefore "not a good model."

But Mr. Kyi Maung disagreed, saying that legally elected members parliament had drawn up the 1947 constitution for "the purpose of establishing Burma as a modern sovereign independent state." "We've had the experience of living under it for 14 years, witnessed development in the areas of economic and social justice and the holding of multi-party elections on four occasions under it," he added.

The NLD had worked out a draft constitution with "major improvements ... made in the light of present realities," Mr. Kyi Maung said. A final version would be presented to a national multi-party convention, he said, expressing concern that the SLORC was using the constitution issue to stall the transfer of power. "The people's mandate is clearly for a speedy transfer of power," one senior Asian diplomat said, "the SLORC should see the writing on the wall."

Khin Nyunt Criticizes Foreign Radio, Envoys

BK1706152390 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of State Law an Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in the company of Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council; Brigadier General Thein Win, Colonel of the Air Staff; Colonel Thura Pe Aung, director general of People's Police Force; responsible officials of the Office of the SLORC Chairman; and directors general, managing directors, and responsible officials of departments, organizations, and enterprises concerned, left Yangon by military helicopters at 0710 today and arrived at Letkokkon village in Kungyangon Township at 0745. [passage omitted]

Later, the secretary-1 and his party proceeded to the pavilion of the (Kunzu) Pagoda of the Letkokkon village where they were welcomed by school teachers and students. Next, the secretary-1 had a meeting with local people from nearby villages.

Addressing the meeting, Major General Khin Nyunt said that plans were made two months ago to develop the whole of Mokkyun region. I and heads of departments concerned have come here once again to study the progress of the work being undertaken and to provide the necessar assistance.

Although multiparty general elections have been successfully held, the SLORC will continue to perform its three remaining tasks normally until a government can be formed in accordance with the law. Priority is being given to developing the border areas and the less developed regions. [passage omitted]

On peace and tranquillity in Mokkyun region, the chairman [title as heard] said it is necessary to be courageous in exposing saboteurs who enter the region. He said since the region's road network and communications are better it is necessary for peasants to grow other crops and breed livestock on a manageable scale in addition to cultivating rice.

Delivering a concluding speech, the secretary-1 said we have come to this region to undertake regional development work and will be providing assistance in meeting the region's requirements in health, education, transport, and communications. Although the elections have already been held, we will continue to work to attain the envisaged regional development.

Some major countries abroad have been broadcasting rumors about our country through their radio stations. This is to cause disunity among the people, to make them doubt the government, and to cause instability in the country so that our nation will fall under their influence.

We have been hearing that diplomats from some embassies in Myanmar [Burma] have not been observing diplomatic norms. They have been secretly meeting several personages and youths from some parties and have been instigating trouble. We say this only to inform the people about the matter.

The SLORC will stand by its three main tasks of keeping the Union intact. They are safeguarding national unity, perpetuating national sovereignty, and continuing to work in the nation's and the people's interests.

Some foreign broadcasting stations are trying to cause disunity among the people and are deliberately spreading rumors to break up the Union. Such rumors should not be believed.

Later, the secretary-1 met department personnel at Mokkyun [name indistinct] and discussed the need for public service personnel to keep clear of party politics, observe service rules, and dutifully perform assigned tasks in the interests of the nation and the people. [passage omitted]

Later, the secretary-1 proceeded to Kungyangon and arrived there at 1045. [passage omitted]

Press Institute Protests Threat Against Reporter

BK2106052190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jun 90 p 6

[Text] The International Press Institute has strongly protested an implied threat in a government-owned Burmese newspaper against a Swedish journalist based in Bangkok.

"The International Press Institute strongly protests about an article published in the May 4 edition of the government-run Working People's Daily," the London-based institute said in a telex to Soe Nyunt, the director of the state-owned News and Periodicals Enterprise.

According to UPI, the institute said the article, reportedly written by Soe Nyunt under a pen name, indicated that Bertil Lintner, a Bangkok-based journalist who writes for the Far Eastern Economic Review, should be punished for illegally crossing Burma's borders to interview Burmese rebels.

The article compared Lintner's case with that of British journalist Farzad Bazoft who was executed by the Iraq government for spying.

The institute said that under article 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights journalists may seek information regardless of frontiers.

"We urge you to issue an immediate public statement rejecting any suggestion that Mr Lintner should be harmed in any way," the telex said.

Lintner, who wrote a book entitled "Outrage" on events in Burma, said other journalist organisations, including the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, have also protested the implied threat.

"I don't take it terribly seriously myself, but it was not a pleasant thing to read," Lintner said.

He said he has since applied for a journalist's visa to visit Burma, but has not been granted one.

KNU Denies Plan To Assassinate Foreigners

BK2106061590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jun 90 p 5

[Text] Burma's resistance Karen National Union [KNU] urged foreign companies to halt their contacts with the Rangoon military regime and denied it planned to assassinate or kidnap foreigners working in Burma.

The KNU said some foreign companies continued to do business or to sign contracts with the government of Gen [General] Saw Maung even after results of the May 27 election showed that the opposition National League for Democracy was making a landslide victory, according to a KNU statement. The statement said the KNU appealed to all nations to persuade their private companies to postpone their operations related to Burma until Rangoon handed over power to the elected representatives.

The statement added that the KNU had "no intention of kidnapping or assassinating foreigners working in Burma" and regretted the "misinterpretation" of the KNU position by a news agency. Karen leader Gen [General] Bo Mya was reported to have threatened to assassinate Americans and other foreigners working in Burma if they continued to have dealings with the Rangoon junta.

In another statement issued by the Democratic Alliance of Burma, an umbrella resistance organization for 21 ethnic, student and religious groups, Bo Mya said that "foreign companies engaging in business in Burma were helping the military junta of Gen Saw Maung annihilate our ethnic revolutionary forces." The KNU is one of a dozen ethnic groups belonging to the alliance. Bo Mya also said in the statement "we (the Karen National Union) don't get involved in any kidnappings."

But the statement also quoted the Karen leader as saying, "If, due to the help of foreign businessmen, the Saw Maung military continues its oppression against our ethnic people beyond our tolerance, they had better be neutralized."

Bo Mya said "nothing untoward would befall those foreign companies which choose to establish an understanding with the KNU." The statement added that the KNU did not single out the United States as a target but all foreign countries doing business with Rangoon.

Bo Mya said foreign companies had one year to "seriously consider whether they would wind up their businesses and come over to us for discussion," according to the statement.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Said Noncommital on Cease-Fire Details

BK2106030790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jun 90 p 5

[Text] Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen was noncommittal when briefed by a United Nations deputy secretary-general on the technical details of a ceasefire in Cambodia. A highly-placed source quoted Ahmed Raffiuddin as saying during a meeting with acting Permanent Secretary Thep Thewakun at the Foreign Ministry yesterday that Mr Hun Sen did not comment when briefed on the details. Mr Ahmed represented UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in a fact-finding mission to Phnom Penh recently before paying an official visit here starting June 16 to attend the Regional Seminar on Consumer Protection.

The source quoted Mr Ahmed as also saying Mr Hun Sen had simply thanked him and said the technical details were "interesting." He was then quoted as saying the UN was sending several fact-finding missions to Cambodia to collect and prepare information which could be implemented immediately after a political solution is reached.

"The UN wants Mr Hun Sen to be informed about the measures which should be taken after a ceasefire is implemented," Mr Ahmed was quoted as saying. "He may be concerned that Phnom Penh may be surrounded by International Peace-Keeping Forces (IPKF) after the ceasefire takes place and his forces are disarmed."

The source said Mr Ahmed indicated that the UN had not yet drafted an official plan and was only at the fact-finding stage. "Since Mr Hun Sen was noncommittal, the UN would be sending other fact-finding missions to Cambodia as well as looking into the mandate of the UN and the UN Security Council [UNSC]," the source quoted Mr Ahmed as saying.

The agreement between the four Cambodian factions, a political solution and the upcoming meeting in Paris on July 9 of the five permanent UNSC members will also have to be taken into consideration, Mr Ahmed was quoted as saying.

The secretary reportedly reiterated the UN would not send an IPKF into Cambodia until it gets approval from all four factions. The source said an enhanced UN role is now being held back by details since the resistance had already agreed to a UN role but Phnom Penh and Hanoi still do not want an IPKF to be sent into the country. The resistance had earlier agreed to a UN role in five ministries in Cambodia—the Interior, Defence, Foreign, Finance, and Information.

Crackdown on 'Traitorous Organization' Noted

BK2106141590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Station commentary: "Smashed Even Before Hatching"]

[Text] Recently, a clandestine reactionary organization embodying all kinds of inactive and idle persons and hooligans was cracked down upon at its inception.

The Cambodian people know well that this traitorous organization does not represent the democracy movement, as a number of propaganda machines in the West have distorted. It is only a reactionary organization formed with the encouragement of foreign espionage organizations in an attempt to launch activities to create instability in political and social fields, and with the assistance of military activities from the outside, to advance toward toppling the State of Cambodia.

This is neither the first nor the last reactionary organization formed with the encouragement of enemies of our people in an attempt to create social anarchy and weaken the great union against the genocidal Pol Pot clique within the ranks of our people. People still remember well that in the first years following the liberation day of 7 January 1979, the enemies of our Cambodian people had set up hundreds of reactionary and traitorous organizations. However, by exercising their rights as genuine masters of their national destiny, our people implemented the slogan of the "three do not's and one do" and cooperated with the authorities in sweeping and smashing all those organizations before they could hatch. A number of their ringleaders were arrested and sent to be tried by the People's Tribunal; some other ringleaders fled into the jungle, became bandits, and joined hands with Pol Pot in an attempt to use military means to take revenge on our people.

However, in the past 11 years, their schemes to topple the new regime through military means have failed. Their attempt to topple the State of Cambodia on the negotiating table also met with shameful defeat. This is why the enemies have tried to combine their military adventures from the outside, particularly along the Cambodian-Thai border, with the formation of a reactionary organization inside the country under the label of democracy in an attempt to bring the genocidal regime back to renew its massacre against the Cambodian people.

For this reason, the Cambodian people understand very well that the punishment of such a traitorous act does not mean a crackdown on the call for democracy. On the contrary, this is a measure to defend democracy, the Cambodian people's peace, and their lives.

In their capacity as the genuine masters of the country, the Cambodian people would like to express their welcome and support for this correct action of the party and state and pledge to resolutely oppose all reactionary organizations under whatever label. The Cambodian people throughout the country pledge to resolutely heighten their vigilance and exercise their right to self-determination against all subversive and sabotage acts of the enemies of all stripes. We pledge to jointly smash them even before they can hatch; that is, to get rid of them even before they can carry out their activities to undermine our national achievements.

Celebration of 39th Army Anniversary Continues

Tie Banh Receives Greetings

BK2206095590 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0401 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 22 Jun (SPK)—Tie Banh, defense minister of the State of Cambodia, received warm greetings from his Vietnamese and Lao counterparts on the 39th anniversary of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and army-people solidarity day (19 June).

In his message, Le Duc Anh, defense minister of Vietnam, stressed:

"As their comrades-in-arms, the Armed Forces and people of Vietnam rejoice at the victories of the past 39 years won by the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and Cambodian people over enemies of all stripes, especially over the U.S. imperialists and the genocidal Pol Pot clique, for the independence and happiness of the country."

The Vietnamese Armed Forces and people consider these victories as their own. They are firmly convinced that the People's Armed Forces and people of Cambodia will win more successes in the defense and reconstruction of their country.

"May the militant solidarity, special friendship, and all-around cooperation between our two Armed Forces and peoples grow stronger and further develop with each passing day."

For his part, Khamtai Siphandon, defense minister of Laos, wrote:

"The Lao People's Armed Forces are satisfied with the steady development of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces as well as their efforts in their national liberation struggle and defense of revolutionary gains under the enlightened leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party.

"On this occasion, they wish the People's Armed Forces and people of Cambodia more victories over the enemies who are stubbornly attempting to undermine the Cambodian revolution."

Reception Held in Hanoi

BK2206063990 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0406 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 22—Major Hing Lang, military attache of the Cambodian Embassy, gave a reception in Hanoi on June 15 in honour of the 39th founding anniversary of the Cambodian People's Army (June 19).

Among his Vietnamese guests were General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and director of the General Political Department of the Vietnamese People's Army; Senior-Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang, vice defense minister; Nguyen Dy Nien, deputy foreign minister; and Vu Mao, president of the Vietnam-Cambodia friendship association.

Members of the diplomatic corps and military attaches of many foreign embassies in Hanoi were also on hand.

Major Hing Lang pledged to do his best for further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the peoples and armies of the two countries.

Radio Reports Military Activities in Siem Reap

BK2206100690 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Excerpt] In May, police and militiamen in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province closely cooperated and launched operations to ambush the enemy in and out of their perimeter and scored successful results. Our forces killed 207 enemy soldiers and wounded 351 others; six were taken prisoner. Ninety weapons and a large quantity of other war materiel were also seized. [passage omitted]

VODK Analyzes Rift Among Phnom Penh Leaders

BK2206105790 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Jun 90

["Reports from Phnom Penh"]

[Text] 1. Traitor Hun Sen scolds traitor Tie Banh. Traitor Hun Sen has ordered eight cars from abroad to be sold privately. He then ordered traitor Tie Banh to deliver these eight cars to Phnom Penh. However, traitor Tie Banh refused to obey traitor Hun Sen because this was personal business. Traitor Hun Sen became very angry and scolded traitor Tie Banh saying: How about you secretly selling timber? Is that not personal business? Tie Banh flew into a rage and answered traitor Hun Sen, saying: It is the same thing.

The above information is from sources close to traitors Hun Sen and Tie Banh.

2. Traitor Heng Samrin is furious about Vietnamese and puppet secret police searching the house of traitor Heng Samkai, Heng Samrin's elder brother and governor of Svay Rieng Province. Recent reports from Svay Rieng Province said a group of secret policemen of the Vietnamese and traitor Hun Sen searched the house of puppet and traitor Heng Samkai, the elder brother of Heng Samrin and governor of Svay Rieng Province, on the suspicion that Heng Samkai had hidden weapons to stage a coup to topple the Hun Sen traitorous group. On learning about this, traitor Heng Samrin became furious and said: Why was the president not informed about the things that were going on?

3. Traitor Chea Sim, alias Salat, chairman of Vietnam's lackey assembly, tells people in Phnom Penh that when an army draft is required, Vietnam sends men to propagandize among the people. But when there is money involved, it all goes to Vietnam, the one-eyed man, and their group. Traitor Chea Sim added that presently, the one-eyed man and his relatives are most corrupt, crooked, and dishonest. Even this question was raised: Could this conflict of interest among Vietnam's puppets, traitors, and lackeys be a Vietnamese maneuver to divide and rule? As for the people, they all say: The fewer bones left, the harder the dogs will fight.

VONADK Reports Arrest of Over 2,000 Workers

BK2206084390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] The Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the traitorous puppet lackey Hun Sen-Heng Samrin regime are currently under attack and pressure unleashed by forces of the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance in the countryside, townships, as well as in Phnom Penh city.

The Hanoi aggressor authorities and the traitorous puppet Hun Sen-Heng Samrin regime recently arrested some officials of the regime for allegedly conspiring to overthrow the traitorous Vietnamese lackey puppet regime. Reports from Phnom Penh further said the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the traitorous puppet regime have arrested a great number of compatriot workers and factory managers, including over 2,000 workers from tanning, tire, and glass factories. Some detainees have been sent to prison in Ho Chi Minh City.

The people, low-ranking Cambodian soldiers, policemen, and officials of the traitorous puppet regime who heard about the arrests are infuriated with the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the traitorous puppet leaders, Hun Sen and Heng Samrin. The Vietnamese lackey puppet regime is increasingly shaking, shattering, and is heading toward an eventual downfall in the near future.

VOK Reports PRC Stance on UN Meeting

BK2206073590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Report by station correspondent (Ke Kimhean); date not given—recorded]

[Text] Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said China has clearly stated that it will not attend the planned meeting of the five members of the UN Security Council with the participation of Cambodian parties unless this meeting is organized according to the five-plus-four formula. That is, there should be representatives from the four Cambodian parties taking part in the meeting with the five countries. The meeting of the five superpowers—the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France, and Britain—and the Cambodian parties is planned for 9 July in Paris, France.

Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said he knew about this Chinese stance from Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan, who met with Assistant Chinese Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin last Monday. The Chinese minister paid a five-day visit to Vietnam and arrived in Bangkok on Friday. The proposal on convening the meeting between the five superpowers and the Cambodian parties was put forward at the five countries' meeting on peace in Cambodia in mid-March. This proposal was reaffirmed at the five countries' meeting last March [as heard]. The five countries did not specify a clear formula on the participation of Cambodian parties, whether it should be a four-party or two-party formula.

To this day, the four permanent members, apart from China, have not yet adopted any official stance on the formula of this meeting. However, there are reports from diplomatic sources saying that, like China, the United States and Britain also want the meeting to be held according to the five-plus-four formula; that is, the four Cambodian parties should be represented. France says it would not oppose this formula. The remaining country, the Soviet Union, could be talked into agreeing to this formula.

It is expected that the meeting between the five superpowers as permanent members of the UN Security Council, and the Cambodian parties in Paris will discuss [words indistinct] relating to the administration of Cambodia in the transitional period [words indistinct] United Nations, the establishment and determination of the supreme national council, and the cease-fire.

Memorandum on UN Security Council Resolution

BK2206053490 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Jun 90

["Memorandum Adopted by the National Government of Cambodia Cabinet"; dated 17 June—read by announcer]

[Text] The cabinet of the National Government of Cambodia [NGC] on 17 June 1990 adopted a memorandum which reads as follows:

Memorandum:

Why is Vietnam opposed to the efforts of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] to settle [the Cambodian problem] and restore peace to Cambodia?

1. Since January this year, the five permanent members of the UNSC have conferred a great many times on the Cambodian issue. They adopted on 16 January 1990 a 16-point statement with respect to a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem in line with the resolutions on the Cambodian problem endorsed by the United Nations over the past 11 years. The UNSC members mapped out the resolution in detail with an enhanced UN role in Cambodia.

2. At their latest meeting in New York on 25-26 May 1990, the big five members reaffirmed that only with a comprehensive political solution can durable peace and stability be restored to Cambodia. The solution should have specific conditions in order:

— To ensure that the withdrawal of foreign troops, the cessation of outside military aid, a definitive cease-fire, and confinement of armed personnel of all the parties in organized barracks be implemented under the effective control and supervision of a UN peacekeeping force;
— To officially establish a supreme national council;
— To guarantee free and fair elections to elect a constitutional assembly under the UN administration;
— To uphold basic human rights and the Cambodian people's freedom simultaneously with the protection and guarantee of these rights; and
— To provide a system to guarantee the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity [of Cambodia], as well as the non-violation of Cambodia's national sovereignty and unity.

3. The endeavor displayed by the big five members of the UNSC has been categorically rejected by Vietnam. Instead, Vietnam has strived to achieve a cease-fire without a comprehensive political solution and UN verification and supervision, thereby preventing the Cambodian people from carrying out their sacred struggle to liberate the nation and independence.

4. Why does Vietnam strongly object to the legal demand of the international community and the big five for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem with an enhanced UN role? This question can be factually explained as follows:

A. Vietnam does not want to do away with its strategy of swallowing Cambodia and including it in its Indochinese federation.
B. Vietnam still maintains nearly 100,000 Vietnamese troops and continues to ship fresh forces to Cambodia for the purpose of fighting the Cambodian national resistance forces. Moreover, more than 1 million Vietnamese settlers also remain in Cambodia. According to a report released on 26 April 1990 by the sabotaging force and non-conventional war committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, the strength of the Vietnamese forces remaining in Cambodia was between 64,370 and 66,740 men by mid April 1990.
C. Vietnam used its all-out efforts to maintain the regime it has installed with the aim of disguising its invasion and occupation of Cambodia forever. Vietnam is against the supervision and verification of the United Nations and bent on preserving the puppet regime. This is aimed at covering up its troops in Cambodia and continuing to occupy the country.

5. If Vietnam achieves its stratagem, how can the Cambodian people choose their destiny themselves or enjoy their rights to self-determination? Can elections be free, fair, and democratic? Can peace, security, and stability be maintained and protected?

If Vietnam has nothing to hide in Cambodia, it is not reasonable that it fears the verification and supervision by a UN international control mechanism and a UN peacekeeping force, which will have other duties, including the prevention of any Cambodian party from using its own force to seize power for itself or dominating other parties.

6. To contribute to the promotion of peace and independence in Cambodia and enhance a national reconciliation among all the Cambodian nationals, the three parties of the NGC and the Cambodian national resistance forces wish to reaffirm their full support for the 26 January 1990 resolution adopted by the big five members of the UNSC on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem and also their readiness to participate in the big five's meeting to be held in Paris in July 1990, to which the four Cambodian parties would be invited.

VOK on Ranariddh Meeting With UN Official

BK2206080390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Diplomatic sources say that Deputy UN Secretary General Ahmed Rafiuddin had already met with leaders of the Cambodian resistance movement to discuss in detail technicalities [words indistinct]. Rafiuddin met with Prince Norodom Ranariddh, general secretary of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], supreme commander and commander in chief of the

National Army of Independent Kampuchea, on Thursday [21 June] after a separate meeting with His Excellency Khieu Samphan, leader of the party of Democratic Kampuchea on Wednesday. His Excellency Khieu Samphan did not say anything at the meeting with the high-ranking UN official, who met at the end of last week with Hun Sen of the Heng Samrin regime which Vietnam has propped up in Phnom Penh. However diplomats say Prince Norodom Ranariddh discussed with Rafiuddin the search for a UN role in solving the Cambodian problem, the outcome of the meeting in Paris of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, the international conference on Cambodia, and the proposal to set up a Cambodian supreme national council.

Indonesia

Alatas To Visit China; Sign Repayment Agreement

BK2106105590 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1028 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Jakarta, Jun 21 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia and the People's Republic of China (PRC) would soon sign an agreement on repayment of Indonesia's debt to China totalling about 84 million U.S. dollars, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas disclosed here Thursday [21 June]. Speaking to newsmen after his meeting with President Suharto at the Merdeka Palace here, the foreign minister said the agreement for the debt repayment would be signed in Beijing when he would be in the Chinese capital on July 1-3.

Minister Alatas paid a call on President Suharto to report preparations for his planned visits to South Korea, Japan, and China from June 22 through July 3.

In recent meetings between Indonesian and Chinese senior officials, the PRC had agreed for not demanding Indonesia to repay one of its debts because Indonesia is not in possession of the minutes of the debt agreement.

Alatas also said that one of the main topics to be discussed in Beijing with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen is the normalization process of the diplomatic relations between the two countries, frozen after Jakarta accused Beijing of being involved in the communist coup attempt in 1965.

Although the itinerary for Alatas's visit to Beijing is still under discussions between Indonesian and Chinese diplomats in New York, Minister Alatas said that he might also meet with Prime Minister Li Peng and President Yang Shangkun.

His trips to South Korea and Japan would be his reciprocal visits since the foreign ministers of those countries have visited Indonesia.

Alatas is also expected to pay courtesy calls on South Korean President No Tae-u and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Alatas Urges 'Further Concessions' on Cambodia

BK2006094490 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 15 Jun 90 p 1

[Excerpt] Jakarta (JP)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas yesterday called on all parties linked to the Cambodian conflict to make further concessions if they really wanted the long-standing crisis resolved. Alatas made the appeal upon his return from a trip to the United States, Algiers and Paris.

Speaking to journalists at Sukarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta yesterday afternoon, Alatas said parties involved in the crisis should make further concessions in order to facilitate the peace process, which according to some observers had begun to pick up again.

Alatas had met with French Prime Minister Michel Rocard in Paris to discuss the future prospects of the Cambodian peace efforts. Indonesia and France are co-convenors of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (ICC) which broke down last August following intense bickering among the two contending camps in Cambodia. Rocard and Alatas said, in a joint statement following their meeting, the two countries would reconvene the ICC if parties to the conflict would make sure the conference ended with progress.

Alatas yesterday also hailed the reported results of the recent meeting in Tokyo between Phnom Penh Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Hun Sen and resistance leader Prince Norodon Sihanouk. Alatas said if it was true that Sihanouk and Hun Sen had signed an agreement on the need to implement military self restraint then he would feel encouraged.

He emphasized that the results of the Tokyo meeting had not yet been passed on to him. But he said even from press reports on the Tokyo meeting it seemed that there was progress. Alatas noted the progress made in Tokyo was much more than any achievement reached during the three rounds of Cambodian peace talks which he chaired over the past few years. [passage omitted]

Government 'Concerned' About Indochinese Refugees

BK2006125090 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 12 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The Indonesian government is seriously concerned about the growing number of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees on Galang Islang and wants the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) to find immediate resettlement places for them.

"There are at present 15,618 refugees, including 1,500 Cambodian people, on Galang Island, which can only accommodate around 7,500 people," said Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Sudomo yesterday, following a meeting with ministers under his coordination.

The Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) had told the government it could no longer take care of the swelling number of refugees due to a lack of funds, said Sudomo.

Conditions on the island had also worsened because the number of refugees has outgrown the facilities provided and there has been clean water shortages among other problems, he said. If the situation was allowed to continue, it was feared an epidemic would break out, he added.

Galang's over-crowding was mostly due to the slowness with which they were being sent to permanent settlement places in third countries. This, said Sudomo, was partly caused by the fact that many countries felt they had enough refugees.

The presence of Cambodian refugees on the island had only complicated the problems because, unlike the Vietnamese refugees who enjoy special treatment as political refugees, Cambodians were considered illegal newcomers because of their apparent non-political motives for leaving their home, the minister added.

Despite the problems they created, the Indonesian government had decided to continue giving temporary settlement to the refugees for humanitarian reasons, said Sudomo. "But we cannot provide them with permanent settlement because we are already faced with population problems," he added.

Sudomo also denied reports the Indonesian government had encouraged refugees to go to Australia. "The truth is, we will help them get to their destinations because we cannot take them ourselves, but it is wrong to assume that we are encouraging them to go to Australia."

The Australian government, he said, had asked Indonesia to screen refugees who wished to settle there. All refugees admitted to Galang Island have to undergo screening before they can be sent to a third country for permanent resettlement, he added.

Creditor Group To Increase 1990-91 Aid

BK2006125690 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 14 Jun 90 p 1

[By Vincent Lingga]

[Text] The Hague (JP)—The IGGI [Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia] creditor group fulfilled yesterday Indonesia's request of U.S. $4.5 billion in new aid for fiscal 1990/91, up 4.6 percent from $4.3 billion last year.

The Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia announced after the end of its two-day 33rd annual meeting here that $1.04 billion of the total would be extended in special assistance (quickly disburseable funds which can be used for local cost financing). However, including aid pledges outside the IGGI program, total foreign aid commitments amounted to slightly over $5 billion, of which $1.28 billion will be disbursed in special assistance.

"We get slightly more than what we have asked for," Coordinating Minister for," Economic Affairs Radius Prawiro told newsmen after the meeting.

Bank Indonesia's (central bank) governor Adrianus Mooy explained that $240 million of the $1.28 billion special aid was committed outside the IGGI program. Mooy said $1.97 billion of the $4.5 billion aid commitments of the creditor group was pledged by country donors and the remaining $2.54 billion by multilateral donors. He added that Japan's Export Import Bank accounted for $500 million of the $540 million pledged outside the IGGI program. The Netherlands pledged $10.5 milion and the United States $25 million, all in the form of special assistance.

Aid commitments by IGGI country donors are as follows: Australia $38 million, Austraia $8.4 million, Belgium $18.7 million, Canada $37.6 million, France $166.8 million, West Germany $88.6 million, Britain $30.7 million, Japan $1.31 billion, The Netherlands $95.6 million, New Zealand $2.1 million, Spain $15 million, Switzerland $15.3 million, the United States $144.5 million. (Italy, another country donor member, has not made its pledge).

Aid commitments by IGGI multilateral donors are: The Asian Development Bank [ADB] $900 million, the World Bank $44 million, European Community $14.6 million, the International Fund for Agricultural Development $20 million, UNICEF $16 million and the World Food Program $11.5 million.

Mooy added that both the World Bank and the ADB would extend $250 million of their respective aid pledges in the form of special assistance.

IGGI, while highly commending the Indonesian government for its sound economic managmeent and for its remarkable success in reducing poverty, called for continued pruduent and sound macroeconomic management and further deregulation to achieve sustained growth. "Sustained balanced growth should lead to a continued reduction in the debt service burden," the donor group said in a press release issued at the end of the meeting.

But the group also asked donor countries to pursue liberal trade policies in order to improve Indonesia's access to external markets.

IGGI agreed that Indonesia will need the continued support of the international donor community to facilitate the completion of its adjustment process.

IGGI's Chairman J.P. Pronk said at a news conference yesterday that the next annual meeting of the group here on June 11 and 12 would discuss the subject of private sector development as a special topic.

Philippines

ICO Promises To Help With Mindanao Issue

HK2106085790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] The 44-member Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] has promised to persuade the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] to coordinate with the the Aquino government in the resolution of the the Mindanao problem. This was announced today by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus.

According to Manglapus, the ICO promise was given by ICO deputy secretary general Ibrahim Bakal to one of the four Philippines missions led by Senator Santanina Rasul in Jeddah. However, Manglapus did not describe the kind of cooperation to be provided by the MNLF to the Aquino government.

The ICO ministerial meeting is to open in Cairo on 3 August. It will be recalled that in previous years, the ICO had asked the Aquino government and the MNLF to hold a dialogue and implement the Tripoli Agreement.

On the second round of exploratory talks on the U.S. bases, Manglapus asserted that he disagreed with proposals to change the composition of the Philippine panel which will hold talks with the Americans.

On the other hand, he also announced that the Partnership program will be launched at the Foreign Affairs Department tomorrow with projects intended to enhance the image of the Philippines overseas. At the consular division, the project to be launched by Manglapus was named: Return of dignity to the passport.

Ramos Wants More Information on Sison's Status

HK2106050590 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0230 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos wants to know more about the status in the Netherlands of the alleged Communist Party chairman Jose Maria Sison. Reports earlier this week said the Dutch government is studying whether to expel Sison. The Dutch Embassy in Manila, however, denied such a move. Ramos told newsmen he is seeking more information.

[Begin Ramos recording] We are asking our defense and military attaches to report on this matter with greater detail so that we can verify what is the [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Japanese Government Limits Debt Relief Measures

HK2106043790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Jun 90 pp 11, 13

[Text] The Japanese government, the country's largest official creditor, is limiting debt relief to the Philippines and its other debtor countries to the restructuring of maturing obligations.

Takeshi Yagi, economic director of the Japanese embassy in Manila, said that at present, the Japanese government does not provide debt relief to its debtor countries "outside of the Paris Club restructuring program." This dampens the proposal of the joint executive-legislative debt council to seek debt relief measures from its 14 official creditors, collectively known as the Paris Club, through negotiations. Yagi added that Japan has yet to conclude negotiations with the Philippines on the third round of the Paris Club negotiations, which covers maturing official obligations from September 1988 to January 1992.

Of the $2.2 billion covered loans, $799.08 million or 36.3

owed to Japan and Italy have not been rescheduled. The Japanese loans being restructured total $768.56 million, of which $323.93 million are from the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan, $300.75 million from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and $135.86 million from the Japan export import bank.

Yagi said that the interest rates of the loans up for restructuring remain the "only substantial issue" where the two parties have not yet reached an agreement. He added, however, that conclusion of the negotiations maybe reached before the end of the month. Otherwise, the Philippines will have to seek extension of Paris Club negotiations.

The embassy official said that in Japan, "the government and the general official sector have their own ideas and restrictions," on debt relief for its debtors. It was emphasized that the restructuring of maturing loans as done in Paris Club negotiations is in itself a form of debt relief. Yagi reiterated that Japan is limiting debt relief to loan rescheduling and is not going to such measures as further reduction in interest rates or conversion of some loans into grants.

The debt panel, composed of finance secretary Jesus P. Estanislao and Central Bank Governor Jose I. Cuisia Jr., had earlier sought assistance from legislators to initiate their own bilateral negotiations with their counterparts in creditor countries to ease the country's foreign debt burden, which as of end-March stood at $26.34 billion.

Further Reportage on Vietnamese Refugee Influx

Aquino Concerned About Influx

HK2106094990 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0800 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] President Aquino met today with the director general of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Office for Asia-Pacific Affairs Romualdo Ong and UN High Commissioner for Refugees Thorvald Stoltenberg on the question of the continuing arrival of Vietnamese refugees to the country. Earlier, the governments of the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Brunei and the United Kingdom complained about the United

States and Vietnam's objection to the repatriation of nonpolitical refugees to Vietnam.

According to the president, it is not the policy of the Philippines to reject refugees arriving in the country, but with the problems and crises confronting the country, it cannot cope with the large number of refugees.

[Begin recording in English] [Ong in progress] ...people with a strong humanitarian tradition and we do feel very sympathetic to the plight of the boat people. She said that we also have to balance these concerns with the fact that we have our own serious economic problems and we are also plagued with lack of resources. We have also a lot of poor people in this country to worry about.

[Reporter] What did she mean by that exactly?

[Ong] That we have to...we certainly are not giving up involvement in the efforts to find solutions to the Indochina refugee problem, but what we can do about this problem is necessarily limited by our national priorities. And naturally, the concerns for our own people, especially the poor among our population, come first.

[Reporter] Was she referring to the 1991 cut-off?

[Ong] No, there was nothing as specific as that. The conversation was somewhat quite general and most of it was taken up with the president, very interesting and very enthusiastic briefing on the present Philippine situation.

[Reporter] Did the president express concerns on the [word indistinct] among Western countries particularly the United States in absorbing refugees?

[Ong] No, there was nothing of that kind that was mentioned. She did express some concern about reports that the UNHCR is experiencing some funding problem. [end recording]

Meanwhile, in an interview with UNHCR Commissioner Thorvald Stoltenberg following his meeting with President Aquino, he expressed hope for fewer Vietnamese refugees arriving in Southeast Asia, as is the case in Hong Kong. He stated that it is necessary to promote the development programs in North Vietnam.

However, Stoltenberg refused to speak on the possible requests he made with the president.

[Begin recording in English] [Stoltenberg in progress] ...the Hong Kong syndrome where we have good development there in the sense that the number of boat people calling on Hong Kong has been reduced by 86 percent compared to last year. I hope that this is, among many other things, due to the broadcasts we are carrying on with our information program in north Vietnam, development through the communities...[end recording]

Fate of Vietnamese Unresolved

HK2206034690 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 22 Jun 90 p 10

[By Anthony L. Cuaycong]

[Text] The fate of Vietnamese boat people in the Philippines continues to hang in the balance. Last week, it appeared as if the impasse on the eventual repatriation of the Vietnamese had been broken with the announcement of Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus on having secured a "firm guarantee" from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) that the asylum seekers "would be out of the Philippines in three years."

Yesterday, however, UNHCR Commissioner Thorvald Stoltenberg danced to the beat of a different tune. "Let me clarify that the UNHCR has not given the Philippines a 'firm guarantee' on the repatriation of the asylum seekers in three years' time, simply because we cannot. The UNHCR does not have any territory to speak of, nor can it give out any passports or visas to (migrants)." Mr Stoltenberg said the UNHCR can "only arrange" for the accommodations of the Vietnamese in consonance with existing provisions in the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) adopted by some 56 countries in the International Conference on Indo-Chinese Refugees held June last year.

The High Commissioner explained that the UNHCR appealed to the Philippines in its capacity as overseer of refugees' rights. "We asked then that the Philippines follow the CPA, on which it was one of the signatories." Apparently, it was in this context that the Philippines allowed Vietnamese boat people saved by U.S. ships in her shores, with their refugee applications to be processed in First Asylum Centers in Bataan and Palawan.

However, the Philippines is far from giving up the fight to protect its own interests. Acting on the premise that every Vietnamese accepted in Palawan or Bataan is a potential screened-out—that is, not qualified for refugee status—and, as a consequence, may end up being absorbed by the Philippines, the country, as is the case with Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Brunei and the United Kingdom, has filed a diplomatic protest over the refusal of the U.S. and Vietnam to automatically repatriate screened-outs.

In this connection, Mr Stoltenberg said the UNHCR was working on an amicable settlement over the issue. "Although it might take some time, we're hopeful a workable agreement can be reached." As regards the instance of first asylum countries that automatic repatriation should be effected starting July 1 this year, and that countries opposing automatic repatriation should set up their own refugee-holding center, Mr Stoltenberg was noncommittal.

"We are in no position to comment on that... But under the CPA, screened-outs are to undergo voluntary repatriation, after which those not acceding to voluntary repatriation are to be subjected to existing international laws on the matter. And, as there is controversy on the interpretation of the laws, we are trying to make ends meet. As for setting up a regional holding center, it may take some time... but that is already a plan being implemented," Mr Stoltenberg said. Indications, however, point to a protracted debate on the matter.

When asked why U.S. ships continue to bring asylum seekers to the Philippines when they could just as well either immediately turn these back to their countries of origin or settle them in the U.S. a ranking U.S. embassy official simply said: "That is not in the CPA." This being the case, the UNHCR faces a tough grind ahead, and may have to shuffle its feet double time to find middle ground.

Aquino Announces 2 Billion-Peso Kabisig Funding

HK2206034490 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 22 Jun 90 pp 1, 2

[By reporters Ros Manlangit, Danilo P. Lucas and Mariquit Almario]

[Text] President Aquino yesterday announced a P2-billion [pesos] soft-lending program funded by "idle" resources of the Social Security System [SSS] for small and medium-scale entrepreneurs joining the programs of her newly-formed Kabisig [partnership] movement.

In the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA], Secretary Raul Manglapus said he would create a Kabisig office in his department to coordinate with non-government organizations (NGOs), cause-oriented groups, and local officials. The Partido Demokratiko Sosyalista ng Pilipinas (PDSP) [Philippine Socialist Democratic Party], but that as of now it (Kabisig) "has no clear programs and structures yet."

The lending program, of which United States Ambassador Nicholas Platt has shown keen interest, was called the Kabalikat sa Pagpapaunlad ng Industriya (KASAP) [Assistance for Industry Development] program. In a launching speech yesterday at the Malacanang Heroes Hall, Mrs. Aquino said KASAPI would help stimulate the economy through low-cost, long-term financing the "Kabisig" way. According to Mrs. Aquino, the credit program is an attempt to draw the Philippines nearer to a newly industrialized economy in the next century.

The SSS funds would provide soft-term loans from a minimum of P500,000 to a maximum of P10 million to small and medium-scale industries, mostly in the countryside, as a way of making up for the inaccessibility of credit in the regions. Noting the scarce credit facilities in the countryside, Mrs. Aquino said the KASAPI would spawn new industries and new opportunities for employment since small and medium-sized ventures are considered the "backbone of the economy."

It was the latest in a series of moves announced by the President to generate initial resources and support for the Kabisig movement which she launched last June 12 against the advice of many of her close allies from the traditional political parties. Yesterday, Mrs. Aquino also issued orders to the Department of Public Works and Highways to explore ways of how local officials can assume authority over public works projects for the rapid implementation of these projects.

The order came immediately after Mrs. Aquino organized the Kabisig National Coordinating Center and national Secretariat and after meeting the provincial governors, and city and town mayors Wednesday evening in Malacanang.

Mrs. Aquino said she intended to push through the Kabisig movement in the countryside principally through local government units in coordination with mass organizations, private cooperatives, church-backed foundations and non-governmental organizations. Also yesterday, the President summoned Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa to determine the present availability and capability of the military engineering units involved in development projects and other civic-assistance missions.

De Villa told reporters after emerging from the meeting with the President that Malacanang had asked for a list of insurgency-affected and non-affected areas possibly in preparation for some instructions for more AFP [Armed Force of the Philippines] activity in support of the Kabisig movement.

Platt, who was an auspicious presence during the KASAPI launching at Malacanang, told reporters that a similar credit program has been successfully pushed in the U.S. "I think that small and medium enterprises is the greatest creator of new jobs if you look at the records of the U.S. in the last 10 years. You will see that virtually all of the new jobs have been in the small and medium-scale industry category," he said.

Platt said that in the U.S. 15 million new jobs have been generated since 1980 by this approach in the small and medium-scale sector. "So I think this kind of program is very significant," said Platt, adding that the U.S. government itself, through the U.S. Agency for International Development has provided some $15 million in support of small entrepreneurial programs in the Philippines. He said he came to the KASAPI launching to offer support to the development of Philippine economy.

President Aquino said that the SSS fits well into the KASAPI program. She said that government would welcome the creation of any organization whether government-supported or non-government that would usher in low-cost financing to the countryside. SSS Administrator Renato Valencia explained that the KASAPI lending terms and conditions are attractive enough for small borrowers.

Loans will be on a five-year term with a one-year grace on principal and fixed interest rates of 16 percent for export-oriented ventures and 17 percent for others.

Valencia said that attractive terms are also given to financial institutions to be accredited in the KASAPI lending program as they will enjoy a spread of four percent for loans for export ventures and three percent for others. The opening of the DFA Kabisig office is one of the main points in the department's agenda as it celebrates its 92d anniversary today.

Aquino Challenges Critics To Help With Projects

HK2206085990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today chided her critics, who, according to her, have no right to criticize the government's programs because they themselves are not involved in activities beneficial to the people.

Speaking at the 44th anniversary of the National Council of Women of the Philippines [NCWP] at the Manila Hotel, the president challenged government critics and political opposition to prove their sincere desire to serve the nation by taking part in activities to accelerate the progress of government projects, such as the Partnership movement.

Earlier, the president was criticized by her opponents for launching the controversial movement, claiming that it was but a political party intended to prepare for the president's reelection bid in the 1992 presidential elections.

The president also stressed that only those actively helping to promote the interest of the country have the right to demand that government officials perform their duties well because they are the true citizens of the country. At the same time, the president thanked the NCWP, a member of the Partnership movement, for helping in the development of Philippine women.

The president asserted that it was the responsibility of all Filipino people to monitor the performance of all government officials, be they elected or appointed.

Manila Survey Shows Aquino Popularity Declining

HK1906093590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino's popularity continues to decline, according to the latest survey on the coming presidential elections in 1992. Based on the survey conducted by the Center for Advanced Philippine Studies, from 6 to 12 June in Metro Manila, the popular choice of Metro Manila residents for the next president of the country is Miriam Defensor Santiago, with President Aquino figuring as second choice. Of the 300 respondents in the survey, 109 voted for Miriam Defensor Santiago, while President Aquino garnered 46 votes. Senator Joseph Estrade was third with 41 votes, Senator Jovito Salonga was fourth with 32 votes, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos was fifth with 13 votes, and former Ambassador Eduardo Danding Cojuangco was sixth with 12 votes.

According to the survey, the most popular politician in Metro Manila now is Miriam Defensor Santiago while the most unpopular is Senator Juan Ponce Enrile.

The survey posed the question: Who is your choice as the next president of the Republic of the Philippines?

Higher Budget Sought for Presidential Security

HK2006023390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 20 Jun 90 pp 1, 8

[By David Borje]

[Text] The Presidential Security Group (PSG), the elite military unit guarding President Aquino, her family and foreign dignitaries, wants a budget three times more than its allocations for this year.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos told the Senate finance subcommittee II yesterday that the 3,000-member PSG needs a P150 million [pesos] budget for 1991. Its budget for this year is only P46 million. Ramos gave no justification for the increase, the biggest among all components of the Armed Forces. But Sen. Ernesto Maceda, chairmen of the subcommittee, said the proposed increase could mean more presidential guards are needed.

The PSG has been credited with defending Malacanang Palace against attacks by renegade troops during the bloody August 1987 and December 1989 coup attempts. The coup plotters have threatened to mount another coup attempt and reportedly made plans to assassinate Mrs Aquino. The PSG budget was taken up during the Senate committee's hearing on the proposed P27 billion for the Department of National Defense-AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] for 1991. This year's budget is P23 billion.

Maceda a critic of Mrs Aquino and Ramos, said he was surprised by the request for additional PSG funding. "Why is the PSG budget being expanded so much? Is this because the announced threats to the President were more serious than what was admitted? Or were these threats aired to justify an increase in the PSG budget?" he added. Ramos said even with the proposed defense budget, Manila remained second lowest in terms of per capita defense spending in Southeast Asia, with Brunei being the highest and Indonesia the lowest.

Ramos and other defense and military officials also indicated it might take longer to contain the restiveness within the AFP because the objective of the renegades has shifted from reforms to a power grab. All proposed government budgets are prepared by the Department of Budget and Management and all appropriations measures, including the national budget, have to be approved by the House of Representatives before their submission to the Senate for consideration as mandated by the Constitution.

Justice Secretary Forms Groups To Probe Airline

HK2106102790 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 21 Jun 90

[From "GMA news" program]

[Text] Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon today ordered the formation of three teams to handle the investigation of anomalies at the Philippine Airlines [PAL] which allegedly involve some 22 top management personnel. The investigating teams will be composed of lawyers from the Justice Department. Their objective is to recommend to the PAL board the suspension or punishment of those found guilty and the acquittal of those found innocent.

[Begin Drilon recording in English] I want to emphasize that all these, almost all of the alleged anomalies, took place prior to 1986. We will proceed on the premise that all those charged are innocent until proven otherwise. We find that this investigation is necessary in order to put to rest all speculations which have been going on about alleged anomalies in the Philippine Airlines. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the officials of the Philippine Airlines reportedly involved in the anomalies remain in office at the moment. Their fate will be decided after the PAL board of directors study their responses to the accusations against them. The board's stand was supported by PAL President Dante Santos, who said that most of the officials occupy high and sensitive positions.

Media-Military Liaison Committee Established

HK2106102590 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 21 Jun 90

[From "GMA news" program]

[Text] AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Vice Chief of Staff Rodolfo Biazon affirmed that the military will not tolerate abuses against the people, particularly reporters. A meeting was held between Biazon and National Press Club [NPC] officers this afternoon and resulted in the establishment of a media-military liaison committee.

At the meeting, NPC President Butch del Castillo expressed concern over the killing and arrest of working journalists under the present administration. Some 23 reporters have been killed since 1986.

[Begin Biazon recording in English] There is always the possibility that the unidentified groups, perpetrators of the offenses, might just come from the armed services. But one thing is very clear: The Armed Forces leadership, taking the cue from the national political leadership, do not condone such offenses. [end recording]

Reporter Refutes Military Agent Charge

HK1906092190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Reporter Vilma Manzo firmly denied allegations by Southern Luzon Command [Solcom] chief Brigadier General Federico Ruiz that she was an active military agent with the task of helping to capture Leopoldo Mabilangan, alias Comrade Hector, leader of the New People's Army [NPA] Melito Glor Command, and other communist leaders.

In an interview with Andy Vital, Vilma Manzo, who is presently abroad, asserted that she did not sign any documents agreeing to become an active Solcom agent nor did she receive any payment to spy on the NPA.

Earlier, Solcom chief General Federico Ruiz claimed that from 1988 to March 1989, Manzo was an active Solcom agent and had helped launch Operation Deerhunter, the objective of which was to arrest Mabilangan.

Here is the explanation by General Ruiz of Solcom:

[Begin recording] [Ruiz] We were asked about what we know of Vilma Manzo. So, we revealed that Vilma Manzo worked for Solcom as an active agent and this can be proved from records and contracts that she signed with us.

[reporter] How many months did she serve as active agent?
[Ruiz] Based from what my men tell me, she worked here for a few months, but during the last few months, she stopped reporting to us. But she is still an active agent to this day because she did sign a contract.

[reporter] General, is it true that Vilma Manzo received 1,500 pesos a month as an active agent?
[Ruiz] That was the agreement they reached and signed.

[reporter] Was this between Vilma Manzo and Solcom?
[Ruiz] Yes. [end recording]

Meanwhile, here is the Vilma Manzo interview with and Andy Vital:

[Begin recording] [Manzo] All I can say to General Ruiz is: If I was supposed to receive 1,500 pesos, I am still waiting for the money to come. I have not received any money from Solcom, if indeed I am their agent. I do not know anything about being an agent of theirs because I am a reporter. It is not my job to harm or point out anyone. My work is to write and I do not side with anyone. Even if Hector Mabilangan is my relative, I know nothing about him being an NPA member. I only do my work.

[Vital] Vilma, we asked General Ruiz if he has any papers to prove the allegations. Did you sign any contract with the Southern Luzon Command making you an active military agent.
[Manzo] All I know is the paper I was forced to sign by Captain Abad in his office.

[Vital] That was on 5 June.
[Manzo] Yes, that was the agent's agreement. And some blank papers which they forced me to sign.

[Vital] So, you had nothing to do with the official papers from the Solcom?
[Manzo] All I want to say is that they claimed that I was an NPA member. Now, the NPA are laughing at them because they know that I am not really an NPA member. They will know that the military has weak intelligence. They have only one motive: They want to destroy my reputation by saying that I am a traitor and that I cannot be trusted.

[Vital] The Commission on Human Rights is also asking where you can be found. Do you still stand firm on your decision...
[Manzo] No, I have not changed my stand on that. I am prepared to appear before the Commission on Human Rights and other agencies because I will fight for my convictions. Otherwise, they will do to other reporters what they did to me. [end recording]

PAF To Acquire 22 More Helicopter Gunships

HK1806064290 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Jun 90 pp 1, 22

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] The Philippine Air Force (PAF) will acquire 22 more helicopter gunships to boost its air capability in the government's anti-insurgency campaign against rebels, Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Avelino Abiol, PAF spokesman, said yesterday.

Abiol said the gunships are expected to be delivered to the PAF in August to be distributed to Philippine Army brigades in various parts of the country.

Abiol said the helicopters are capable of firing guns and rockets to give heavy support to ground troops, especially in remote areas in the province.

He said Maj. Gen. [Major General] Gerardo Protacio, PAF chief, also ordered four Nomads since these craft are "very much in demand" by surface forces in combat operations. Nomads are twin-engine light planes that could carry 10 persons, including the pilots, Abiol said.

Protacio said the PAF originally intended to buy six MD-50 helicopters, but the length of negotiation for the craft brought down the value of money the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) can use for the PAF.

"These first one is coming by the end of the month," Protacio said.

The PAF chief added that all of the helicopters will be acquired by the Air Force and will be "co-located" in the respective units of the Army to give more firepower to the troops both in ground and air. "These helicopters can carry only three people, but they will be effective in the defense mobility of government forces during combat," he added.

The PAF is modernizing its air assets in an effort to hasten the government's goal to end insurgency problem before 1992. After assuming the presidency in 1986, President Aquino gave the AFP five years to solve the 20-year insurgency problem in the country. Protacio said communist insurgency remains to be the major problem today, despite the existence of various ultra-rightist groups such as Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) and the Young Officers Union (YOU).

Asked about the recruitment activities by the RAM and YOU, Protacio said the AFP is now in better control of its troops. "Recruiters are being reported to us by our people. This means that soldiers themselves are no longer attracted to join anti-government groups," he said.

The PAF chief said he went around the farthest and remotest Air force stations in the the Visayas and Mindanao to talk to soldiers and found out that majority of the AFP members are still on the side of the government. "We have noted it in December coup attempt," Protacio said, indicating support to the government by PAF soldiers. "The AFP is part of the people. There may be scalawags in the military organization, but the AFP in general is supportive of the government," he said.

He said the RAM and YOU have been sending "anonymous" information or disinformation to the military, "but the AFP is always one step ahead of them."

Officer Behind YOU Recruitment Identified

HK2206034890 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 22 Jun 90 p 10

[Text] A Philippine Constabulary intelligence officer who was identified recently by the Armed Forces officials as a key official of the Young Officers Union [YOU] was named by the San Pedro, Laguna police station commander as the one responsible for the recruitment efforts of the YOU.

Capt. [Captain] Melito Mabilin told the Davide Commission yesterday the YOU recruiter was Capt. Rafael Gardeno, for whose capture the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] is offering a P300,000 [pesos] reward. Capt. Gardeno, claimed Capt. Mabilin, gave him information materials about the organization last August and asked him to pass the papers around. However, he (Mabilin) instead gave the papers a cursory glance and burned these afterwards. The papers, he said, were made up of 10 to 15 photocopies of information materials printed on YOU stationery. The group's logo was the YOU motto written on an unidentified figure and flanked by two laurel leaves, with the initials "Y.O.U." at the bottom and the full name "Young Officers Union" below the logo. Officers with the ranks of captain to major reportedly comprise the organization's membership roster.

The YOU officer and a certain Mr. Serajose, he recalled, invited him for a dinner-meeting to organize all military and police forces in Laguna, which was held in the former's residence. However, no discussions about the military or the Government took place. Nothing was discussed either during a second meeting held at the Lambat Disco Pub in Binan, Laguna, a week after the first meeting. After two attempts by Capt. Gardeno to see him at his station, Capt. Mabilin said they finally met again at his residence sometime March this year and talked about the YOU official's housing loan and AWOL status. He said that he learned of the arrest order for Capt. Gardeno after he was called by AFP C2 Gen. Gerardo Flores.

Aside from the YOU recruitment attempt, a certain Lt. "Popong" Felix of the Laguna Constabulary Command also allegedly asked Capt. Mabilin to join the group "Guardians," but the latter thumbed down the proposal. He did not clarify if the organization was the Honasan-led Guardian Center Foundation or the 115,000-member Guardian Brotherhood, Inc.

Arrest of Renegade Air Force Officer Reported

HK2206024390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 22 Jun 90 p 6

[By staff writers Dionision L. Pelayo and Recto Mercene]

[Text] The military announced yesterday the capture of an Air Force officer who led the attack on Sangley Naval Station in Cavite during the December putsch.

Air Force 1st Lt. [Lieutenant] Wilfredo Genete, who has a P100,000 [pesos] price on his head, was arrested Wednesday in Barangay Ungos, Real town in Quezon by soldiers from the Laguna PC [Philippine Constabulary] command and a special Air Force group.

Genete is the 19th military officer to fall since the December coup attempt which led to the death of at least 113 people.

Genete was unarmed and did not resist arrest when the lawmen picked him up at his friend's house, according to Maj. Gen. [Major General] Cesar P. Nazareno, PC-INP [Integrated National Police] chief.

Genete allegedly disarmed Sangley guards enabling truck loads of Army rebel soldiers to enter the naval station last December 30. Maj. Gen. Gerardo Protacio, PAF [Philippine Air Force] chief, said Genete was formerly assigned to the 15th Strike Wing in Sangley.

Genete was implicated by Maj. Wilfredo Mateo, another PAF rebel officer now in custody, as instrumental in the recruitment of officers and soldiers in Cavite. Genete allegedly disarmed the Sangley guards with the help of Mateo, Navy Lt. Cmdr. [Commander] Jaime Lucas and a Sergeant Beltran, also of the Air Force. He and Mateo allegedly monitored the activities of the military and police in Cavite City by making the rounds of the different police stations on instructions of Lt. Col. [Colonel] Oscar Legaspi, one of the rebel officers who occupied Sangley at the height of the failed coup. Genete, who later acted as aide of Legaspi during the Sangley takeover, was one of those seen painting "RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldier of the Filipino People]" markings on Tora-Tora planes.

Gerardo said that Genete was also involved in the August 1987 coup attempt but was later cleared. He joined the 15th Strike Wing following his exoneration but was again involved in the unauthorized issuance of firearms.

Lawmen caught Genete in the house of his brother-in-law's girlfriend. He was reportedly engaged in backyard piggery and poultry business.

Genete has been turned over to PAF authorities who are now investigating him at Villamor Air Base.

Meanwhile, a wave of assassination attempts against ranking civilian officials and military officers will signal the launching of another coup attempt between the end of this month and August.

Military intelligence reports shown to the GLOBE state that among those marked for assassination are President Aquino, Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos and Gen. Renato de Villa, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff. The report said the assassination attempts, whether successful or not, will be followed by "Pockets of resistance" in various military camps where the coup plotters have gained following. The reports also said that the Reform the AFP Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People (RAM-SFP) has been recruiting soldiers for a new coup attempt in various areas in the country.

"But I doubt if they can recruit soldiers by units. All they can do now is recruit individuals who may have gripes against the government or the military leadership," a senior intelligence officer who requested anonymity told the GLOBE.

The officer said: "It is deceptively quiet nowadays. Just like last November." He did not elaborate.

During the sixth and bloodiest coup attempt launched against the government last December, several military units, including a Marine Battalion landing team and the elite Scout Rangers, joined the rebel troops.

Earlier, Navy Capt. [Captain] Rex Robles, former RAM spokesman, said the coup plotters must move within three months in order to maintain their "visibility" and their following. Robles also said that the RAM-SFP is now courting the Young Officers' Union (YOU) to support them.

The YOU, an organization of officers and soldiers who are less than 40 years old, has reportedly bolted from the RAM-SFP fold.

Robles told the GLOBE that the RAM-SFP must win the support of the YOU in order to launch a successful attempt against the government "because the YOU has the warm bodies."

Military Sees Imminent Split in Communist Party

HK1906133990 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 19 Jun 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] A group of CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] members reportedly convened in Metro Manila last week to discuss plans to separate from the main body of the communist party. This was announced by Colonel Jaime Canatoy of the Civil Relations Service's special operations group.

Canatoy said that the group was to be led by former priest Luis Jalandoni.

[Begin Canatoy recording in English] I think there is this group well within the movement that may separate from them because allegedly the party is not really based on the proletarian concept of party. It is mainly composed of city-bred petit bourgeoisie. Another allegation was that... while Sison is admonishing the cadres and the political activists to live simply and to sacrifice for the movement, Sison and his group are living it up in Europe. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Canatoy also explained that the alleged criminal activities of the European network of the CPP-NPA were contained in diskettes confiscated from the NPA.

On the other hand, Jose Maria Sison, in a radio interview today, claimed the allegations were fabrications by the military.

70% of Rebel Funds Said Collected Abroad

HK2106050190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Jun 90 p 7

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] The military yesterday said about 70% of the funds generated yearly by communist rebels come from foreign sources, particularly from legal projects funded by non-government organizations from western Europe, the United States, and other sympathetic groups. A captured communist document showed that some P15 million [pesos] was collected by the rebels from legal projects funded by foreign groups.

Last year, collections from all sources reached P1.4 billion, a declassified document distributed to reporters said. A senior intelligence official said the rebels have four major sources of funds. They included revolutionary taxes levied on multinational corporations and logging firms in the countryside, solidarity funds from revolutionary groups abroad, progressive taxation scheme from small businessmen, farmers and fishermen and legal projects funded by NGOs [Non-Government Organization].

A document captured last year from Communist Party finance chief Wilma Austria Tiamzon showed the rebels generated some P22 million in 1987. Nearly 70% of the collection came from the NGOs abroad, 20% from progressive taxation and 10% from party dues and support from solidarity groups, including locally-based cause-oriented groups. Progressive taxation, done only in "liberated" areas, accounted for about P5 million in 1987, the document showed.

On foreign funds, 60% was channeled to the rebels while 40% was used for project implementation. The 60% share was divided equally between the regional centralization fund and the National Democratic Front which managed the program.

Another senior military official said the rebels were getting substantial amount from NGOs abroad without the NGOs knowing it. The military had launched a counter-measure to stop the cash flow from the NGOs abroad. An intelligence project, codenamed Ripper, was activated two years ago to inform the NGOs about the alleged activities of the rebels and how their money was spent in the country. As an example, the military cited the Food Aid Program in Negros Occidental in 1988 in which the rebels were able to siphoned a substantial amount earmarked for the feeding program of malnourished children in the island-province.

As more NGOs were kept aware of the rebel activities, the rebels' finances were drastically reduced. The NGOs were also asked to check first with the government a list of programs approved for foreign funding so that their money would not end up in the rebels' hands. The Americans had responded positively to the idea as defense chief Richard Cheney expressed concern over the flow of support from the NGOs in northern America to the local rebels.

10 Suspected ABB Members Arrested in Manila

HK2006033390 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0245 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Report from the Constabulary Security Group at Camp Crame]

[Text] Ten suspected Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB] members including three women and seven men were formally presented to the press today. The leader of the ten suspects, believed to be operating in Metro Manila, was identified as Noel Cruz, alias Donde, sector commander of the South Sector Command operating in Manila-Rizal area of responsibility of the ABB.

Here is Colonel Angerico Cagawan who presented the suspects to the press:

[Begin recording in English—in progress] ...operating here in Metro Manila. Beside me is Noel Cruz, alias Donde, who is the sector commander of the South Sector Command under the Manila-Rizal Regional Party Committee. He is also a member of the regional operation command. And in that capacity, he has (?participated) in practically all of the killings of top ranking military officers that have had transpired lately. From him we have gathered documents about the surveillance reports of the recent killings of Colonel Dino. We also have uncovered documents or surveillance reports that led to the killing of Major Manalo, the company commander of the PC [Philippine Constabulary] command of Rizal Constabulary Command. We have also uncovered documents about the killing of Police Lieutenant Colonel de la Paz, the deputy superintendent of the Rizal PC-INP [Integrated National Police].

In this group also is the triggerwoman of the late Oscar Taylo, the former station commander of Makati. [end recording]

NPA Attempt To Set Up Headquarters Foiled

HK1806064490 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Jun 90 p 22

[By Ped Velasco]

[Text] Tagum, Davao del Norte—The attempt of some 800 New People's Army (NPA) regulars to establish their command headquarters in Davao del Norte covering five barangays in Asuncion town this province was foiled by troopers Friday. Col. [Colonel] Danilo Olay, head of the 602nd Infantry Brigade, said the rebels were led by Amado Payot alias Commander Benzar and Fr. Francisco Navarro alias Commander Nico.

Olay said the guerrillas came from Surigao, Agusan, and Davao Oriental. He said the rebels took several days to secretly converge at barangay Sunlot in Asuncion before launching their offensive to have full control of the area. However, he said, four companies of Army and CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] troopers from the 64th Infantry Battalion led by Maj. Salvador Delfin were dispatched to the area. It took the government troopers a few days to drive the rebels away from the area with the support of artillery and mortar bombardment.

The barangays which they tried to control are Sunlon, Inansian, Buan, Kamansa, and Naponggas, all in Asuncion town. Some 2,000 families from these barangays have evacuated and temporarily housed in schoolbuildings and chapels in nearby barangays.

Gov. Prospero Amatong told newsmen yesterday that the needs of these evacuees are well attended through the assistance of the provincial government, Red Cross and Department of Local Government. He added that some of the evacuees have started returning to their homes as the situation normalizes.

Japanese Imports Aggravate Trade Deficit

HK1906053190 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 19 Jun 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by Rica D. Delfinado: "Trade Deficit with Japan 130 Percent Higher in 1st 3 months"]

[Text] Surging Philippine merchandise imports from Japan aggravated the country's poor trade position with the Asian economic giant during the first quarter of the year, latest data from the National Statistics Office (NSO) indicate. The NSO said the country's trade deficit with Japan from January to March this year stood at $116.2 million, 130.1% or $65.7 million more than the $50.5 million gap recorded in the same period last year. The deficit was the result of increasing Philippine imports from and decreasing exports to Japan.

Per the NSO data, Philippine imports from Japan expanded by 10.14% to $500.5 million during the first three months of the year from $454.4 million the previous year. In contrast, exports to Japan decreased by 4.8% to 384.3 million this year from the $403.9 million recorded for 1989. The drop in exports was not entirely unexpected since this has been the emerging pattern for the past year or so. In fact, earlier projections by the Department of Trade and Industry's (DTI) Bureau of Export and Trade Promotions (BETP) that the country would rake in $1.621 billion in foreign exchange receipts from Japan in 1989 fell slightly short of target. Foreign exchange inflow last year only reached $1.586 billion, $38 million or 2.4% short of the projection. Also on a year-to-year basis, the country's biggest trade deficit with Japan was the one it incurred last year, at $457 million. The previous year, the country enjoyed a positive balance of trade with Japan amounting to $2.9 million.

Despite this quarter's and last year's downswing, Japan remains as one of the Philippines' biggest trade partner, second only to the United States. This is indicated by the country's total trade with Japan which expanded by 65.7% from $2.19 billion in 1987 to $3.63 billion in 1989.

The surging trade deficit, though, is something that could not be avoided given Japan's waning demand for the country's primary exports. Over the past few years, two of the country's primary products—sugar and coconut oil—for instance, have performed dismally due to competition by cheaper, low calorie substitutes in the Japanese market. For another, prawns, 90% of the country's output of which goes to Japan, is also currently suffering from stiff competition provided by such prawn producers as Indonesia, China, India, Taiwan and Thailand.

On the other hand, given the country's economic recovery efforts, its demand for durable goods and equipment which Japan supplies continues to rise, thus contributing to the continual build-up of the country's import bill.

Thailand

Chatchai's 'Triumph' in Washington Analyzed

BK2206025590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Jun 90 p 4

[Article by Kanchana Spindler: "Old Friends Seal a New Partnership"]

[Text] Embroiled as we are in the rumour-mill machinations of domestic political developments, it may take some time for the true significance of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's recent accomplishments in Washington DC to emerge. However, when the verbal gunsmoke clears and foreign policy analysts can finally see beyond Ban Suan Phuttan [General Chawalit Yongchaiyut's official residence], it will become apparent that Prime Minister Chatchai and President Bush have initiated a startling, and long overdue, realignment in Thai-US relations.

For the first time since the US withdrawal from Indochina and the end of the Vietnam War 15 years ago, a US president has had the foresight, and the benefit of well-informed advisers, to recognise that Thailand's emerging economic and political maturity, along with its pivotal geo-political position, make it the United States' strategic ally of choice in Southeast Asia, today and for the foreseeable future. Ally in this sense means not the passe jargon of East-West confrontation, or the client-patron relationship of the '60s and '70s, but a new partnership built on equality and the recognition and promotion of mutual interests.

Whilst the benefits to Thailand from this new recognition and understanding in Washington will take time to develop, the concrete results of the Chatchai-Bush summit more than substantiate the fact that a new era has dawned in Thai-US relations.

Firstly, in their 20-minute "Four Eyes" only meeting, the two leaders established a "very cordial, warm and friendly atmosphere," according to the Prime Minister's adviser Surakiat Sathirathai. President Bush invited Prime Minister Chatchai to start their discussions and later the Thai side was allowed to control the agenda for the full plenary session. The Prime Minister's well-honed diplomatic skills and easygoing manner were a major component in the rapid establishment of a strong personal rapport with the US President.

Secondly, the US quickly agreed to the Thai proposal to establish a ministerial-level consultative mechanism on trade and investment issues.

This was considered a major accomplishment since the US does not easily agree to such bilateral mechanisms. The joint committee's first meeting will be held in Bangkok in early August, when US Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher will lead the US delegation. The joint committee is expected to include US Trade Representative [USTR] Carla Hills, Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan and Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Kon Thappharangsi.

Director-General Pracha Khunakasem of the Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told the BANGKOK POST he saw the consultative mechanism as a "cooling point to prevent problems from escalating. It's a signal that those on the working level don't have to push because those at the top have already reached an understanding."

Thirdly, the US side accepted without reservation Thailand's request for additional support for drug suppression activities, especially in the form of hardware, such as helicopters.

A fourth area of agreement in principle was over the outstanding dispute over an air agreement between the two countries. Thailand, in the words of one highly-placed source, was able to "delink landing rights from the CRS (Computerised Reservation System) issue." Transport and Communications Ministry's permanent Secretary Siphum Sukhanet extended his trip to attend meetings to finalise this matter.

All these positive developments, which Prime Minister Chatchai called "gifts," stem from a growing US trust in Thailand's long-term economic and political stability. Short-term domestic political developments in Thailand in no way marred the discussions or weakened Thailand's bargaining position, as some analysts had predicted.

The Prime Minister told the BANGKOK POST that the US "didn't care who's resigning or staying. No one asked what the political situation is like in Thailand," said Gen Chatchai. "The US is interested in doing something for Thailand as a country, not for any particular government or individual."

So what happened to all the problems, the trade tensions in particular, one might reasonably ask? How did Thailand manage to escape being grilled when even on the day of the Bush-Chatchai meeting, supporters of Senator Moynihan's Mini-Trade Bill aimed at curbing Thai-Burmese trade relations, were staging a mini-demonstration in front of the White House? Why did President Bush not take a much tougher line?

Analysts of course differ. Some observers say it's because the American leadership understands Thailand's positions better than before. "Take our approach to the peace settlement in Cambodia; the US understands now that it's the most sensible, that's why there was Tokyo summit," reasoned one source close to the Prime Minister. "On the trade issuue, the US realises that they have to step into investment opportunities in Thailand in order to balance investment from other countries while negotiating at the same time," added the same source.

This new level of understanding by the US of the Thai position is due in large part to the meetings of high-ranking staff on both sides which took place four times before the visit to clear all the problems.

The first meeting that kicked off the "rolling negotiation"—a term Richard Solomon, US Assistant Secretary of State for the Far East, who was present at three of the meetings, used when referring to the Cambodian settlement—was during the Chatchai-Bush meeting in Tokyo last year, when an Aide Memoire was drafted and presented to the US leader.

Following the Tokyo talks was a meeting between US Assistant Secretary of State on Narcotics, Melvin Levitsky, and the Prime Minister's advisers at Ban Phitsanulok. The third meeting was between Richard Solomon and the advisers prior to the recent Tokyo summit. And the fourth meeting took place immediately after Gen Chatchai arrived in Washington, again, between Solomon and the advisers.

In addition, there were other communications which took place at the political appointee level. Meetings between counterparts were encouraged before the Plenary Session. Minister Subin and USTR Carla Hills; Minister Kon and Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher and Kon's counterpart William Bennett who is also in charge of narcotics affairs, for example. Their objective was to "clear" beforehand which issues were to be raised.

"Maybe all these meetings and the homework that the Thai side had undertaken are the reason why the issue of IPR [Intellectual Property Rights] wasn't raised in a confrontational manner," Mr Surakiat pointed out, but added: "However, this is not a guarantee that we will be taken off the (watch) list. On the other hand, the fact that it was not raised ought to be a positive sign that they are happy with what we've done all along."

Certain US senators and congressmen, too, have been supportive. And some US media published very positive articles on Thailand's initiatives. An important US official record, a Floor Statement by Senator Alan Cranston commended the Thai Prime Minister's role working towards a Cambodian peace settlement. Former secretary of state and current chairman of the Centre for National Policy, Edmund Muskie, who referred to Chatchai as a "visionary visitor," suggested in his writing that "if Mr Bush is really worried about the danger of the Khmer Rouge he should listen to Mr Chatchai."

Senator George Mitchell, in an eight-page statement, called on "changes" in American policy towards Cambodia. "Following the close of the US-Soviet summit, we're reminded how many significant changes have occurred in the world in the past few years," writes Mitchell. "We are also reminded that not all of America's policies have adapted to these changes in the international environment."

According to most observers, it is this active exchange of formal and informal points of view extending back to early last year that has really moved the US position vis-a-vis Thailand. And for this, the Prime Minister's small team of personal advisers must be given the credit.

Mostly educated in the United States, the advisers maintain an extensive network of high-level academic and US government contacts, of whom are close personal friends, and it is this network that has helped Thai views to "infiltrate" US government thinking largely sidestepping traditional and slow-moving diplomatic channels. How else does one explain why President Bush reportedly turned to US Trade Representative Carla Hills during luncheon to tell her to "specifically" look after Thailand's position regarding Section 301? Did these American "gifts" come free of charge?

Prime Minister Chatchai told the POST that Thailand was asked to host an Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting next year, before the World Bank-IMF annual meeting. "That's the one thing they asked for, and I accepted," Gen Chatchai said.

There is also some indication that the subject of discreet Thai support for the maintenance of US bases in the Philippines was raised by the US along with Thai support for the US APEC Pacific Basin initiative. Although no confirmation of these US requests could be obtained, it seems more than likely—given the new dimension of Thai-US relations—that these topics surfaced. Finally, it seems the US government is starting to focus with new clarity on this part of the world. And while the new scar tissue of Indochina has certainly not yet fully healed, in Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and his team, President Bush finds a sense of diplomatic initiative that he can identify with and support. This is the triumph of Chatchai in Washington.

Official Rejects U.S. Claims on Subsidized Rice

BK2206025390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Jun 90 p 17

[Text] The Foreign Trade Department has rejected claims that Thai rice exports to the United States are subsidized by the Government and is prepared to prove otherwise, a senior trade official said yesterday. Deputy director-general Kroekkrai Chiraphaet's comments followed a report by an American law office hired by the Thai Government to oversee the country's interests, that Washington had agreed to reduce countervailing duties [CVD] on Thai rice exports from the present 0.824 per cent rate to 0.24 per cent. The decision is subject to a final ruling by the US Department of Agriculture which is due to be made shortly.

The preliminary 0.24 per cent CVD rate comprises 0.2265 per cent as export credit facilities, 0.0092 per cent as interest subsidies for rice mills and 0.009 per cent as credits to rice mills, with the balance as privileges to trading firms.

Mr Kroekkrai said if the finding proved that the subsidies were less than 0.5 per cent, the US Government would refund all CVD charges levied on American importers of Thai rice since 1986. If the subsidies range between 0.5 per cent and 0.824 per cent, only the difference will be returned to the importers.

Meanwhile, an informed source said Washington would organise a meeting on July 2 for an exchange of information between the Thai side and the US Rice Millers' Association, which has urged Washington to review the CVD on Thai rice. The source said Thai officials would have a chance to provide additional information by July 27 and this would be handled by the American law firm in charge of the matter. He said the Thai side was expected to present as proof the restructuring of credit facilities on rice exports by the Bank of Thailand, which has resulted in a continuous decline in government subsidies on rice exports since 1983. He was optimistic that with this information, Washington would agree to bring down the CVD rate on Thai rice.

Despite CVD collection, Thai rice shipments to US have increased steadily from 4,005,069 tons in 1985 to 4,322,864 tons in 1986, 4,356,656 tons in 1987, 4,728,742 tons in 1988 and 6,037,031 tons in 1989. [figures as published]

Chatchai Refuses To Accept Chawalit Rejection

BK2206012590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Jun 90 p 1, 2

[Excerpt] Premier Chatchai Chunhawan insisted yesterday that Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut must help him serve the country and refused to accept the ex-deputy premier's rejection of his order appointing him an adviser unless he personally heard it from him. "Gen Chawalit must accept it (the post)..." the premier said.

A few hours later, Chawalit confirmed with reporters he had turned down the appointment which he described as causing "tremendous damage" to him. Chawalit yesterday also submitted his resignation as chairman of the Government-Senate Coordinating Committee and told reporters he would soon bid farewell to Chatchai before moving out of his official Suan Phuttan residence to his own house in Nonthaburi.

Chatchai confirmed that he had received the resignation. "Yes, I have got it and I didn't bother to read the reasons written in the letter," he said. He said he appointed Deputy Premier Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan to the vacant slot.

When asked whether he would still go ahead with the plan to reshuffle the Cabinet after the no-confidence debate, Chatchai said that he had already "reshuffled" it by appointing himself defence minister yesterday.

Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani described the confusion concerning Chawalit's rejection of the appointment as a "misunderstanding". "The premier probably thought that since Chawalit expressed willingness to advise him, he should provide him with access to information by appointing him adviser," the spokesman said.

Making his public call for Chawalit to help him, the premier sternly said that if Chawalit still cared about national interests, he must accept the post as his adviser on security matters, foreign affairs and narcotic suppression. "He has handled the Cambodian issue from the beginning. It is now in his hands and he cannot dump it like this," a grim-faced Chatchai said.

Chatchai renewed his call to Chawalit after the latter's close aide, Gen Phat Akkhanibut, told reporters on Wednesday night that the ex-deputy premier would not be able to accept the order appointing him to a "political post".

"Who is Phat?" Chatchai snapped back when asked about the general's statement. "I don't talk to Phat. I can talk to Chawalit anytime," he said.

Chatchai was speaking to reporters after his meeting with former premier M.R. Khukrit Pramot at the Regent Hotel following a lunch which was also attended by his policy advisers. Asked repeatedly about the talks, Chatchai tersely answered: "It was about the meal."

Chatchai earlier in the morning had a meeting with his policy advisers amidst rumors that he was resigning as a result of the political crisis. Asked about the rumours, Chatchai said: "Others would have to go before me." Chatchai said he was not concerned about the issue at all. "I am more concerned about the House jobs because there are many important bills that I want the House to pass," he said.

Gen Chawalit, meanwhile, confirmed he would not accept the post of adviser to the prime minister, saying he turned down the premier's offer to rejoin the Cabinet because he wanted to get elected to the House before taking a political post. "I told him that I still regard him and all the Cabinet members as my friends and I am always ready to provide him with counsel on any issue," Chawalit said in an interview with reporters at the gate of his home. He had stopped his limousine to talk to the waiting reporters. But he added that he could not accept the appointment because it clearly mentioned that he would be a political appointee as PM's [Prime Minister's] adviser. [passage omitted]

Khukrit Says Chatchai Not To Bow to Pressure

BK2206013590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Jun 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan will not bow to pressure and resign or dissolve the House of Representatives, his political mentor M.R. Khukrit Pramot said yesterday. Khukrit advised the premier to stay in his job and ignore all criticism and speculation surrounding him and the government.

The former premier also shrugged off ex-deputy premier Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut's rejection of Chatchai's offer to rejoin the Cabinet or to serve as his special adviser on security, foreign and narcotics affairs. "There is nothing to panic about because the government's stability depends on its majority support in the House and I can say the government is still politically strong," said Khukrit after a private lunch with Chatchai at the Regent Hotel. Khukrit, who was invited to lunch by Chatchai, said only MPs [members of Parliament] and the House can bring down the government. Khukrit said it appeared during their lunch that the premier was confident of handling the present political situation.

The premier also seemed to be unconcerned about what observers see as the growing military pressure on him to resign or dissolve the House, Khukrit said. "I have known him since he was a lieutenant. I can guarantee that he is not the type to bow under pressure or threats. He will fight to the end and face the consequences. If he was someone who easily broke under pressure, he would not have become prime minister," Khukrit said.

Describing Chatchai as a fighter for democracy, Khukrit said the premier was trying to work within the parliamentary system to stay on top of things. "He is walking in his lane, the lane of the parliamentary system and therefore he knows well that any vehicles moving in other lanes would not be able to knock him down," the former premier said.

Khukrit painted an optimistic picture of the outcome of the upcoming no-confidence showdown between the government and the Opposition. After the government survives the censure vote, it will be even stronger because the support it receives from the House will reflect its popularity with the public, Khukrit said. "I still believe the government can survive but if things do not turn out the way I think they will, then the only thing I can say is that I am sorry. I hope my statement will help improve the performance of the stock market," he said. Khukrit was referring to another steep drop of the Securities Exchange of Thailand index by about 15 points yesterday.

Khukrit also said he felt public support and sympathy for the government, and Chatchai especially, was increasing. "He is a man who can rapidly rally support around him. So rapidly that he should be given an award as a man of the people," Khukrit said.

Chawalit Resignation Halts Plan for Peace Talks

BK2206015190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Jun 90 pp 3

[Text] Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut's resignation from the Cabinet has put on hold a plan for Thailand to host peace talks among the four warring Cambodian factions, informed sources said yesterday. China had requested Thailand to organize an inter-Cambodian meeting to resolve the "Khmer Rouge problem". The problem arose when the Khmer Rouge boycotted the Tokyo talks earlier this month and dropped out of the peace process, the sources said. China's suggestion was conveyed to Chawalit during his "secret" trip to Beijing right after the Tokyo meeting where he met Chinese President Yang Zhangkun and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

The Khmer Rouge boycotted the Tokyo peace talks as it was against the restraint of force agreement which called for two opposing governments in Cambodia—the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh and the United Nations-recognized resistance coalition. It said it would not abide by the Tokyo agreement which was signed by resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen.

According to the sources, Chawalit agreed to have the inter-Cambodian meeting in order to solve the "Khmer Rouge problem" in Bangkok, adding that Chawalit had already informed Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan about his preliminary decision with China. Chawalit's resignation has worried the leadership in Beijing who feared that the intra-Cambodian meeting would be aborted, said the sources.

Kraisak Chunhawan, an adviser to Premier Chatchai, said the government was willing to host the intra-Cambodian meeting in Bangkok. "But it would not be a repetition of 'agree-to-disagree' talks as they used to be." However, he said the Tokyo agreement was still open to the Khmer Rouge if joined [as published] the supreme national council. "It seems to me that the Khmer Rouge should first rethink the boycott of the Tokyo accord, then if necessary the resistance coalition could meet to settle their outstanding differences," Kraisak said.

Cabinet Approves Interior Ministry Press Bills

BK2106042190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jun 90 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] The Cabinet yesterday approved two Interior Ministry bills designed to maintain the authorities' power to unilaterally close down any newspaper and set up a Press Council to rule over individual journalists. The two bills, a Printing Bill and a Press Council Bill, were presented to the Cabinet by Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha and Deputy Interior Minister Sano Thianthong, deputy government spokesman Pratuang Wichanpricha said.

The first bill would revoke the controversial Decree 42 but maintain the power of the Press Officer—the police chief in Bangkok and provincial governors in the provinces—to close down newspapers without notice. Under the current law a newspaper could immediately file a case with the court to have the closure lifted. However, under the new Printing Bill, newspapers will have to appeal to the Interior Minister within seven days. The minister would have to consider the paper's appeal within 15 days and only after he declines their appeal would the newspaper be able to file a case with the court.

The second bill is for the setting up of a Press Council to which all Thai journalists will have to belong. The council would be empowered to enforce ethical standards and oust journalists from their profession if they are found guilty of having breached journalistic standards.

Mr Banhan argued to the Cabinet that the administration still needed the power of closure of newspapers to safeguard against damage to the state which could not be dealt with quickly enough in court. He also cited potential damage to the nation, religion and the monarchy to justify the closure power.

The Cabinet debated the issue at length and was divided into two groups, those supporting the closure power and those wanting this power to be exercised by the courts and not the administrative authorities. [passage omitted] The debate went on for about two hours after which the Cabinet passed a resolution to accept them for forwarding to the coalition parties coordination committee for presenting to Parliament.

Editorial Criticizes Decision

BK2106062990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jun 90 p 4

[Editorial: "A Slap in the Face for Press Freedom"]

[Text] In Moscow last week, the Soviet national legislature wrote glasnost into law, banning censorship and granting wide Press freedoms, including the right of individuals to start publications. "The Press and other mass media are free," the new Soviet press law's first article says. "Censorship of mass media information is not allowed." The official Soviet news agency TASS described the measure as "the first legal act in the history of the Soviet state that contains detailed guarantees of press freedom and journalists' rights." Under the law, officials who harass reporters or try to block publication of information would face criminal charges and fines.

In Bangkok yesterday, the Cabinet accepted in principle two pieces of draft legislation proposed by the Interior Ministry—a new press bill and another on the creation of a press council. Among other things, the proposed new press law is ostensibly aimed at repealing the National Administrative Reform Council (NARC) Decree No 42. But the gist of this proposed legislation is conspicuously similar to the essence of the controversial decree that it is supposed to repeal. The process of starting up new publications will still be subject to the permission of the "press officers". These officers will still be authorised to close down newspapers whose coverage is deemed to be "in violation of good public morals or threatening national security," before the affected publications have the right to appeal to the court.

The difference in these two approaches is glaringly stark. The first is the case of a repressive country that is trying to correct its past mistakes under its professed programme of rapid political and economic liberalisation. The second is the case of a government in what is internationally viewed as a budding democracy and new economic powerhouse of Southeast Asia trying to perpetuate its power to control the Press while refusing to accept the dynamism of prevailing social and political pluralism. A simple comparison of the two cases casts Thailand in a very poor light.

Whether they like it or not—and notwithstanding the fact that the two draft bills were proposed by the Interior Ministry—all Cabinet members will have to share the blame for what they decided yesterday. This, lamentably, marks a low point for Thai democracy and casts a dark stain on the otherwise favourable political record of this government. No one can dispute the fact that Decree 42 was the product of a dictatorial regime which seized power after a bloody coup in 1976. The edict might have been necessary at the time when the country was transforming itself from a situation of near-anarchy into one in which law and order was restored. But there is clearly no place for it today. By retaining the essence of the decree in the proposed new press law, the Government stands being accused of trying to perpetuate the dictatorial power of nearly 14 years ago.

The Cabinet decision yesterday also places Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's personal credibility in doubt. The Prime Minister has let it be known all along that he supports the abrogation of Decree 42—a position well appreciated by the local press fraternity. He had gone to the extent of instructing the Interior Ministry to follow a set of logical and democratic guidelines whereby Decree 42 would be repealed separately from the promulgation of a new law which would place the power to close down newspapers with the court. He reiterated his promise to do away with the press-gagging decree on his return from his successful US trip on Tuesday [19 June] night. The fact that the powers-that-be at the Interior Ministry finally prevailed over the Cabinet on their own drafts raises the question of whether the Prime Minister is in full control.

In the final analysis, yesterday's Cabinet decision is not an end in itself; various parliamentary proceedings will now ensue before the two pieces of draft legislation really become law. The local press fraternity, of which this newspaper is a part, will not give up its campaign to seek greater freedom of expression and ways and means to enhance the public's right to know. It is, after all, our fundamental duty to continue publicising what we truly believe to be best for both the public and national interest. It is only a question of time before logic and righteousness finally prevail.

MCOT Accused of 'Sabotaging' Communications

BK2206092490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0849 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Bangkok, June 22 (AFP)—Thailand's Supreme Command Friday accused officials of the state-run Mass

Communications Organization of Thailand (MCOT) of "sabotaging" military communications. The Supreme Command said in a statement that MCOT Director Rachan Hunsen had ordered his staff to set up advanced radio intercepting equipment near a major Army communications center here.

The MCOT comes under the responsibility of Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Chaloem Yubamrung, who earlier this month made veiled corruption accusations against General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, prompting the general to resign his dual posts as deputy prime minister and defense minister. The resignation sparked fears of a military coup to overthrow Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's government.

The Supreme Command statement suggested that MCOT personnel were eavesdropping on military communications, although it only said that military communications had been "disrupted." The Supreme Command had "discovered that internal military communiations had been sabotaged," the statement said. The statement said that details of the incident had been reported by Supreme Commander Gen. Sunthon Khongsomphong to Mr. Chatchai. It said that four MCOT personnel had been arrested early Friday morning and sophisticated electronics equipment seized.

The arrests were made by Navy personnel because the area where the MCOT employees were found in a mobile radio van comes under Thai Navy jurisdiction, it said. An investigation established that the MCOT employees had been assigned since Sunday by Mr. Rachan to "prepare the mobile unit ready for broadcasting," the statement added.

Mr. Rachan, who was appointed to the MCOT by Mr. Chaloem, is also secretary general of the Muan Chon (mass) Party which is led by the minister and is one of the six parties in Mr. Chatchai's coalition government.

Gen. Chawalit resigned from the government June 11 after Mr. Chaloem implicitly questioned his personal integrity. His resignation was also prompted by an attack by another cabinet member, Deputy Interior Minister Trairong Suwannakhiri, reflecting on the fact that he is not an elected member of the House of Representatives.

Minister on Report on MCOT Radio Relay Truck

BK2206063690 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Asked by newsmen about a report that yesterday [21 June] the military seized a radio relay truck belonging to the Mass Communications Organization [MCOT] of Thailand, Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha said the report was inaccurate. What happened was that an MCOT radio truck operating in Phailom temple was interfering with the signal of a Navy radio station. The Navy station tried to verify the cause of the interference and confiscated the MCOT relay truck. Banhan said he learned that the truck has been returned to the MCOT.

Vietnam

National Assembly Session Continues 21-22 Jun

Communique No.4 Issued

BK2106121990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 21 Jun 90

["Eighth National Assembly's Seventh Session Communique No.4"]

[Text] On 21 June, the National Assembly held a plenary session at the conference hall. National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao directed the session.

In the morning, the National Assembly heard:

1. Comrade Phan Van Khai, head of the State Planning Commission, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, deliver a report on the implementation of the socioeconomic development plan during the first six months of this year and measures aimed at accelerating the 1990 state plan for the remaining six months.
2. Comrade Nguyen Ky Cam, state general inspector, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, report on results of the inspection on banking activities.
3. Comrade Cao Sy Kiem, director general of the state bank, report on efforts to overcome shortcomings and to improve the organization of the banking sector during the first six months of this year.
4. Comrade Nguyen Van Duc, vice minister of interior, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, report on results of the implementation of the National Assembly's resolution on political security and social order and safety during the first five [as heard] months of this year.
5. Comrade Nguyen Hoa, acting head of the National Assembly Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee, deliver the committee's report on carrying out the resolutions of the National Assembly's sixth session on socioeconomic tasks and on implementing the 1990 state budget during the first six months of the year.

In the afternoon, the National Assembly heard:

6. Comrade Nong Duc Manh, vice chairman of the National Assembly Nationalities Council, on behalf of the Nationalities Council, report on pressing problems in the mountain regions and ethnic minority zones.
7. Comrade Phan Ngoc Tuong, minister and head of the government committee for organization and cadre-related tasks, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, report on the objective of redrawing the administrative boundaries of provinces.
8. Comrade Nguyen Co Thach, Foreign Minister, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, report on the world situation and diplomatic activities of the Vietnamese state during the first six months of 1990.

National Assembly deputies will continue their group discussions on 22 and 23 June.

Socioeconomic Report Given

BK2206101990 Hanoi VNA in English 0743 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 22—Phan Van Khai, chairman of the State Planning Commission, on June 21 presented a report of the Council of Ministers on the country's socio-economic situation in the first six months of this year and on principal measures aimed at pushing up the implementation of the 1990 plan, to the seventh session here of the National Assembly. He said:

"Over the past six months, the socio-economic situation continued changing positively on the basis of last year's important achievements. But, at the same time new difficulties and problems also cropped up to be solved.

"On the national scale, rice harvest in spring this year reached 8.6 million tons, approximate to that in the same season last year, but in the northern provinces alone, it dropped by nearly 440,000 tons.

"Summer-autumn rice was sown or transplanted 947,000 hectares, covering 76.5 percent of the plan on the national scale, or 79.6 percent in the Mekong River Delta.

"The cultivation of industrial plants, except mulberry, was developed fairly well. The acreage of main short-term industrial plants such as groundnut and soya-bean was almost equal to that in the last year, while that of other crops like rush, jute, sugar-cane and tobacco decreased mainly because of low yield and the decline of market price and demand.

"Pig-breeding and sea food catching continued their on-going expansion. According to statistics up to April 1, 1990, the pig herd increased by 5.8 percent as compared with the same period last year while the catch of sea products, by 4.5 percent. Sea food export also registered a 7-percent increase.

"Afforestation and tree-planting increased by 30 per cent over the same period last year."

On industrial production, he said: "Productivity of all industries, handicrafts and small industries in the first six months was approximate to that in the same period last year, in which the centrally-run industries increased their production by 13.3 percent while local state-owned and privately-owned industries reduced production by 5.3 percent and 7.9 percent respectively.

"The national electric power generation on the whole increased by 8.9 percent, but dropped seriously in the south, particularly in Ho Chi Minh City, adversely affecting production and the people's life. The production of crude oil increased by 92.6 percent.

"The production of those engineering products in great demand in the country such as transformers, electrical equipment, ship-building and repair, electronic assembly and manufacture increased.

"The production of a number of consumer goods also increased: paper by seven percent, match from two to three times, glassware by 4.6 percent, soap and detergent by 62.6 percent, batteries by 17.9 percent, bicycle tyres by 47 percent, and textiles of the state-owned enterprises by ten per cent. However, the state-run trade service is still at a loss for approach of operation and management, thus yielding little efficiency."

On education, culture and social affairs, he said :

"In the first six months of 1990, more attention was given to social issues. But slow progress has been made in various aspects of social affairs due to economic difficulties and limited budget. From late 1989 to June 1990, 550,000 people were given jobs.

"In general, the socio-economic situation in the first six months of 1990 continues the way to positive changes, strengthening the success recorded in 1989.

"Respectable achievements were made in agricultural production, especially in the production of food in southern Vietnam. Despite difficulties in changing economic mechanism, important industrial products increased, a number of establishments were well adapted to the new mechanism, linking production with market.

"Transport, communications and post: Since early this year, especially in the traditional Lunar New Year festival, different means of transport from public offices, factories, enterprises, and economic sectors, have been motivated to meet the national demand for transport of goods and passengers.

"The postal service has further expanded its cooperation and joint ventures with foreign countries. Satellite ground stations have been installed in Hanoi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City and 90 more international-line switchboards established. However, there remain many shortcomings and weakness in the national communications network.

"On the pricing problem, in the first five months of the year the average monthly price increase was 2.7 percent. Compared with that of the first half of 1989 (3.95 percent), the figure proved fact that inflation is being checked and curbed.

"External relations economy:

—a prominent progress is seen in the rapid increase of export-turnover which amounted to 950 million roubles and dollars [as received] in the first half of this year, up by 40 percent over the corresponding period last year. Export goods are diversified, ranging from crude oil, rice, pork to rubber, coffee, tea and [word indistinct].

However, the production of export goods, especially of handiwork, fine art articles and goods processed and manufacture on foreign orders, is still limited major socio-economic changes in some Eastern Europe countries [sentence as received]. Some contracts have been cancelled. Besides, the dilatory payment and overdue debts to the export goods manufactures fail to encourage the production of export goods.

—the import turnover is estimated to rise to 1,150 million roubles and dollars [as received], marking a 6.8-percent increase over the same period last year."

"On foreign investment: Since the law on foreign investment in Vietnam was promulgated in May, Vietnam has granted licences to 151 projects with a total investment capital of 1,077 million U.S. dollars, in the first five months of 1990, 46 projects were licenced with a total investment capital of 225 million U.S. dollars in which the legal capital accounts for 216 million U.S. dollars.

"In the past six months, the total volume of retail sales represented a 7.4 percent increase over the corresponding period last year. Markets are full of consumer goods of different categories and items which can meet the demand for home consumption.

"A number of important projects such as the Dap Cau Glass Factory, Thye Ha Tien Cement Factory, the Tan Mai Paper Mill, the drilling rigs no. 8 and 9, etc., were put into operation. The export value increased remarkably, consumer goods were abundant. Prices still increased with low rates, which were less than the corresponding period in 1989."

The report also points to some fundamental measures to push up the implementation of the 1990 socio-economic plan in the second half of this year.

Report Discussed

BK2206053590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] This morning, 22 June, the Eighth National Assembly's seventh session entered its eighth day of work with the holding of group discussions. The National Assembly deputies concentrated on discussing the Council of Ministers' report on the situation regarding the implementation of the socioeconomic plan since early this year and on main measures to be taken to step up the implementation of the socioeconomic task for the second half of the year. This report was presented by Comrade Pham Van Khai on behalf of the Council of Ministers at yesterday's morning—21 June—National Assembly session held at the conference hall.

Article on Principle of Democratic Centralism

BK2006082590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Article by Nguyen Dinh Luan of Nguyen Ai Quoc Institute: "Is Democratic Centralism Still a Principle for the Organization and Operation of the Communist Party?"]

[Text] Although democratic centralism is a basic principle that constitutes the core of the organization and operation of the communist party and the difference of the working class' new-style party from other political and social parties, many people are rejecting it. Some want to abolish the centralization and keep only democracy. They believe that in doing so, bureaucratism and arbitrariness within the party could be avoided. It is true that the phenomena of bureaucratism, arbitrariness, prerogatives, and privileges exist in our party. They have distanced the party from the masses. The party has criticized itself for these shortcomings and is actively seeking remedial measures. However, the cure is not to abolish the principle of democratic centralism or to abolish centralism and keep only democracy.

The Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] is not a club for debate. It is a revolutionary party, an action party, and a vanguard unit in the revolutionary movement of the working class and the masses. To be operational, there should be singlemindedness in the party and a definitely oriented target. As a result, there should be centralized leadership from a unified center and compliance with the party resolution once approved by a majority. If centralism is separated from democracy, the inevitable consequence will be casual and unprincipled liberty.

Centralized leadership is effective only when it is based not only on the revolutionary sentiment and will, and political goals, ideals, lines, tasks and experiences but also on scientific knowledge of the evolutionary and developmental law of objective realities.

Lenin said: Politics is a science and an art. It is a science because the research of objective truth can progress only amidst a truly free and democratic atmosphere. Without freedom and democracy, man cannot bring into full play his intelligence and ability when the revolution by nature always requires creativity in thinking and action. Without democracy in centralism, it will be impossible to avoid dictatorship, arbitrariness, and bureaucratism.

We think that bureaucratism in the party is due not to the application of the principle for democratic centralism but to misunderstanding of its contents and failure to practically apply this principle. The process of turning the party from a political organization into an organ of superstate power, the generally low educational level of cadres and party members, and so forth are also major causes of bureaucratism in the party.

The principle of democratic centralism should be implemented in a unified political body simultaneously with other organizational principles of the party first of all, the principle of collective leadership and individual responsibility. We struggle against bureaucratic and arbitrary evils in the party but not against decisiveness. The reason that bureaucratic and arbitrary evils still exist in the party is because we have not determined nor upheld the sense of responsibility to make cadres daring.

In the party committees, cadres have been assigned to assume specific tasks, but whenever something happens, usually a perfunctory inspection will be made and individual responsibility has not been clearly established. If individual responsibility has not been clearly determined, collective leadership will become easily an ill-defined irresponsible leadership in which success can be acknowledged easily, but a setback can be attributed to no one.

To oversome this situation, we think there should be an organizational rule compelling party committee echelons from the central down to grass-roots levels to report their activities and to criticize themselves before the party organizations in which they operate in a periodic and consistent manner.

The problem is that it is difficult for the control committees to operate in the party's present control mechanism when something in the party committees of equivalent levels need to be controlled. Once centralized leadership is not subject to collective control and control from the lowest level upward, it will easily become bureaucratic and arbitrary. As a result, we should overcome this phenomenon by implementing Lenin's demand that the party congress elect old, loyal, and the most prestigious party members to the central control committee. The control committees at other levels must also be organized similarly in order to create a brake mechanism within the party organization which serves to oppose bureaucratism and arbitrariness more effectively.

The control rule must be linked closely to disciplinary and exonerative rules. Party conferences between two congresses should be held at district, provincial, and central levels. In these conferences, through reports on activities and self-criticism and criticism by party committee echelons, if any echelon is deemed to be incompetent to discharge his assigned duties, he should be dismissed. Only by so doing can we ensure genuine democracy in the party. At the same time, party conferences between two congresses are also charged with assessing the party activities and even with controlling the control committees, because if control committees are not placed under collective control, they can also easily become bureacratic. So, we have to implement the principle of democratic centralism in close connection with the principle of collective leadership and individual responsibility, along with an appropriate mechanism of exoneration and a brake mechanism, in order to effectively oppose bureaucratism, dictatorship, and arbitrariness.

Truth is a binding characteristic of science. Usually, truth is initially discovered by a person or a group of persons. The cases of Copernicus and Einsten or the doctrines of Karl Marx and Engels were all in the same process. When Lenin personally advanced his new economic policy, he also met with many opponents who believed that he had rejected socialism and followed the capitalist path. As a result, in order to promote democracy and collective intelligence and individual initiative, we should establish rules to protect the rights of the minority; we should take other related organizational measures to ensure the protection of those who have original ideas from suppression and reprisal and to give them conditions for bringing their intelligence into full play. Meanwhile, although those who have original ideas have the right to preserve their ideas, they are still subject to compliance with the party discipline. As minority is subordinate to majority, they must speak and act according to the party resolutions, if they still want to remain members of the party who have volunteered to join the party organization—a political revolutionary organization of definite principled character.

The right to preserve ideas does not permit broad dissemination of individual ideas at variance with the party resolutions. Behind each political and social viewpoint are always hidden interests. We should remain alert, calm, and careful. We must be able to point out clearly what types of interests they are and whether or not they can create a motive force for the renovation process to benefit socialist goals. Or are they aimed at undermining that cause?

The scheme to eliminate the principle of democratic centralism in the party organization and operation is obviously unconstructive. It is a plot to weaken and disintegrate the Communist Party and change the direction of national development toward capitalism.

Many people are still holding a utopistic view of bourgeois democracy. To deal with this issue, there should be a scientific and revolutionary attitude against the total negation as well as the absolute praise of bourgeois democracy as an idol of this era. We do not negate the positive values of bourgeois democracy in the developmental course of mankind history. At the same time, we should realize that bourgeois democracy is in fact a state organization of political dictatorship of the bourgeosie which serve the exploitative interests of the bourgeoisie—the minority class that exploits the working class and the laboring people who are the majority force of the people in society.

In the United States, the Democratic and Republican Parties have taken turns seizing power. However, does political power belong to the majority of the people? Certainly not! This power is totally in the hands of monopolistic capitalists. If power really belongs to the people, why have the American people let one percent of the wealthiest people seize 36 percent of the national assets whereas millions of other people are still poor and unemployed? If we abandon the class viewpoint, it is impossible to properly understand the issue of democracy. Only scientific socialism is the unique path that leads our people to mastery over their fate and life. This cause is impossible if there is no political leadership of the Communist Party that is organized and operating along the principle of democratic centralism with its correct scientific scope.

Tran Quang Co on PRC-SRV Relations

BK2206103490 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 21—Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co interviewed by our correspondent here today said there was no (no) progress at the recent Sino-Vietnamese talks in Hanoi due to some unsurmountable differences between the two sides.

Tran Quang Co, who led the Vietnamese side at a round of informal talks in Hanoi early this month on the Sino-Vietnamese relations and the Cambodia issue with a Chinese delegation headed by Xu Duxin, assistant to the Chinese foreign minister, said however that the two sides reached consensus on some fundamental points.

He said:

"I want to talk about the unanimous points first. The two sides agreed that the Cambodia issue must be solved by an overall political solution which includes the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops with international verification, a cease-fire, the cessation of foreign military aids to all Cambodian parties, the holding of free, fair and democratic general elections under the international control, and the establishment of a future peaceful, independent, neutral and non-aligned Cambodian State having friendly relations with all other countries, particularly with such close neighbours as Vietnam, China, Laos and Thailand.

"A number of differences still remain to be sorted out mainly because the two sides held different views on the issues relating to Cambodia's internal affairs. The Chinese side was of the view that Vietnam should agree with China on such entirely Cambodian affairs as the concrete functions and powers of the supreme national council and the measures to deal with the armed forces of all Cambodian parties after the enforcement of a cease-fire.

"We do not reject China's concrete proposals regarding Cambodia's internal affairs, however Vietnam is not (not) in a position to represent the Cambodian parties in saying 'yes' or 'no', as it belongs totally to Cambodia's sovereignty. We clearly told China that Vietnam is ready to join China and other countries in respecting the Cambodians' decision as far as the Cambodia parties go in accepting China's views."

Tran Quang Co rejected the Chinese head delegate's statement that Vietnam had made no concession on two key remaining problems and still demanded that the Khmer Rouge be excluded from the supreme national council of Cambodia. He said:

"Vietnam welcomes the results gained in Tokyo, regarding them as an important step forward leading to a political solution to the Cambodia question. Regarding the question of the supreme national council of Cambodia, we reaffirmed to the Chinese side that Vietnam will respect the agreements reached in Tokyo between Cambodian factions on the membership of the supreme national council and fully agree on the principle that none of the Cambodia factions is excluded and that no Cambodian faction monopolizes the supreme national council. We once proposed that China should convince the Khmer Rouge faction to take part in the cease-fire agreement and the establishment of the supreme national council. Regrettably, the Chinese side, has not responded to the proposal but held Vietnam responsible for Chairman Hun Sen's signing the joint communique in Tokyo with Prince Sihanouk saying that it meant the exclusion of a Cambodian faction, though it is known to everyone that Chairman Hun Sen called upon the Khmer Rouge to take part in the supreme national council and the cease-fire agreement, and it is the Khmer Rouge which has separated itself from the official agreements in Tokyo.

The Chinese side demands that the supereme national council be the only authentic supreme authority organ in Cambodia in the transitional period, which must have the legislative and executive power, must directly control at least five most important ministries: the national defence, the interior, the foreign affairs, information and finance, while the other ministries and technical branches should be managed by the two administrations and put under the guidance of the supreme national council. Vietnam hold that this is the concrete arrangement among the Cambodian factions themselves. We think that Chairman Hun Sen previously rejected the establishment of a quadripartite coalition government and now he and Prince Sihanouk agree to establish a supreme national council comprising 12 members equally divided between the two present Cambodian administrations. Therefore, supreme national council is not a quadripartite coalition government. However, the Chinese side still demands that the supreme national council have the power of a quadripartite coalition government. Vietnam holds that the supreme national council has the responsibility and power in implementing the agreements to be signed on Cambodia, the national reconciliation and on the organization of general elections.

"Vietnam holds that the two existing administrations must refrain from doing anything to obstruct the responsibility and power of the supreme national council. To what extent the Cambodian factions accept China's ideas is the right of the Cambodian factions. Vietnam's stance is to respect Cambodia's sovereignty and right to self-determination. Vietnam and China cannot represent the Cambodian factions to handle Cambodia's internal affairs."

With regard to the armed forces of the Cambodian parties, Tran Quanga Co said: "China urged Vietnam to share its view that the Cambodian armed forces should regroup in places marked off by the United Nations and then their number would decrease to the lowest level. The Vietnamese side declared that it would respect the agreements reached by the Cambodian parties in Tokyo that the armed forces should stay where they were.

Vietnam put forth some principles concerning the armed forces of the Cambodian parties, namely to put an early end to the civil war, continue to honour the ceasefire, and refrain from any interference in the Cambodian people's political life and their general elections so that the general elections would be held in a really free and equitable way. Concrete measures to be taken to realize these principles are to be decided by the Cambodian parties. Vietnam, China and other countries should respect the decision of the Cambodian parties."

Asked about the United Nations' role in the Cambodia issue, he said:

"Vietnam holds that the UN should play an important role in the settlement of the Cambodia problem on the basis of respect for the Cambodian people's sovereignty as may be seen in the monitor of the total Vietnamese Army pullout, the control and supervision of the implementation of other agreements in the overall solution to the Cambodian conflict including the termination of foreign interference and foreign military aid, especially the control and supervision of the general elections to assure their freedom, justice and democracy. Besides, given the Cambodian parties agree together to assign the United Nations some more tasks concerning Cambodia's sovereignty, Vietnam stands ready, together with other countres, to respect it."

On the normalisation of relations between the two countres, he said:

"The issue was dealt with at the recent informal meeting in Hanoi although most of the three-day meeting was for the Cambodia problem. The Chinese side once again reaffirmed that the normalisation of its relations with Vietnam could not come before the settlement of the Cambodia problem, but only after it, that only when the Cambodia problem is solved, China will talk of the normalisation of its relations with Vietnam. That is the point where the policies pursued by China and by the Bush administration in the USA meet.

"In spite of difficulties, the Vietnam Government and people consistently advocate the normalisation of relations with China, attaching importance to the long-term and fundamental interests of the two countries. That policy is also in the interest of durable peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the rest of Asia.

"Though no agreement was made on our meeting again the two sides wished to continue consultations. This also conforms to the aspirations of the two peoples and public opinions."

Asked about the best measures to end the transitional period in Cambodia, Tran Quang Co said:

"General elections, really free, fair and democratic, must be organized under strict international control, as the ones held in a really free, really fair and really democratic way in Namibia and Nicaragua by their then existing administrations. In Namibia and Nicaragua, no waste time was spent in argument about power in the transitional period. The decisive factor is an agreement on the law on general elections and on effective measurs to ensure the elections to be really free, really fair and really democratic under the effective control of international organisations. The question of power of the council and armed forces should not be taken for discussion to evade that key issue.

"If the Cambodian parties cannot reach any agreements on Cambodia's internal affairs, no outside force can replace them to settle their affairs. In that case, measures should be taken neither to make the internal disputes of Cambodia an international issue nor to harm any country, and foreign countries must put an end to all acts of intervention and support for one side against the other. If the international community neutralizes Cambodia's internal disputes, all Cambodian parties will have to find measures to settle them soon."

Commenting on Xu Duxin's statement that Vietnam showed and goodwill [as received], Tran Quang Co said:

"Vietnam's unilaternal troop pullout from Cambodia alone was a goodwill move, which has made an important contribution to settling the Cambodia issue. Has any country which was directly involved in the Cambodia issue unilaterally stopped its interference in Cambodia? Public opinion has pointed to China's persistent backing to the Polpotists as the main obstacle to a political solution of the Cambodia issue. China's remark that Vietnam's refusal to settle the Cambodia's internal affairs manifests its lack of goodwill. However, we resolve to respect the principle of non-interference in Cambodia's internal affairs."

Asked why China demands to share the 12 member supreme national council among the four parties, not among the two governments as it had agreed before, and why it has a hard line on the power of the supreme national council and armed forces, Tran Quang Co said:

"China has a hard-lining stance on the participation of the four parties in the supreme national council and armed forces because it wants both Vietnam and China to have a stance contrary to the Tokyo joint communique. China has not approved of the Tokyo joint communique, and does not want to oppose it alone."

Nguyen Van Linh Receives Nicaraguan Envoy

BK1906155590 Hanoi VNA in English 1441 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 19—General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Nguyen Van Linh yesterday received Nicaraguan Ambassadress to Vietnam Olga Aviles Lopes who paid him a farewell visit before going home for a new assignment.

The Vietnamese party leader had a cordial talk with the departing Nicaraguan envoy.

Australia

Mexican President Arrives for Three-Day Visit

BK2206072290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] The president of Mexico, Mr Carlos Salinas de Gortari, has begun a three-day visit to Australia, the first by a Mexican head of state. President Salinas is having talks focusing on trade and investment issues with the prime minister, Mr. Hawke, and other ministers.

Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent Stewart Heather says both nations believe it is a considerable step to increase economic relations. Trade between Australia and Mexico last year was worth U.S. $105 million.

Fiji

Rabuka Plans To Quit; Chiefs Open Meeting

BK2106071490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0555 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Suva, June 21 (AFP)—Fiji's military commander Major-General [Maj.-Gen.] Sitiveni Rabuka has said he will step down as soon as a new constitution is promulgated guaranteeing native Fijians a parliamentary majority, it was reported here Thursday [21 June].

He told a meeting of chiefs called to endorse a draft constitution Thursday [21 June] that native Fijians must govern Fiji to ensure peace and political stability.

Maj.-Gen. Rabuka, 41, told the FIJI TIMES he intended to step down as military commander "as soon as the Constitution is promulgated."

The announcement surprised his followers here but political analysts believed it could be in preparation for general elections likely next year which could see his return to the political arena. He said he was confident the council would adopt the draft constitution, which guarantees native Fijians a majority in parliament.

"What the chiefs decide today will not only affect the lives of Fijian people but also those who have made Fiji their home," he told the opening session of the great council of chief's three-day meeting.

The forum of Fiji's 70 most powerful traditional chiefs is expected to endorse the draft constitution, which guarantees Fijians 37 parliamentary seats, 10 more than Indians. Other races including part-Europeans, Chinese and Polynesian Rotumans would have five seats in the 69-seat legislature. The document would replace a 1970 constitution which gave Fijians and Indians 27 seats each and the other races eight. Fiji's population of 800,000 people is evenly divided between Fijians and Indians.

Maj.-Gen. Rabuka, who ousted Fiji's first Indian-majority government in the first of the two military coups he led in 1987 and abrogated the 1970 constitition, said the chiefs could only command the respect of native Fijians if they upheld their demands for greater numbers in parliament.

President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau also appealed Thursday to indigenous Fijians to support the interim government's promulgation of the new constitution. Ratu Sir Penaia told the chiefs he was surprised at the emergence of new political factions among Fijians that were causing dissension in the Fijian community. He critised new political groups which he said were "trying to hinder or block government efforts to rebuild the economy and institute a constitution that would enshrine the aspirations of indigenous Fijians."

Ratu Sir Penaia said he was saddened at the involvement of certain leaders of the Methodist church, which has the biggest indigenous Fijian following, in the current political crisis.

Papua New Guinea

Bougainville Peace Talks Postponed Again

BK2206070590 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jun 90

[Text] This week's proposed peace talks in Honiara between the Papua New Guinea Government and the militant leaders in Bougainville have again been postponed. However, our Radio Australia correspondent in Honiara said at this stage there are no signs of the talks being moved from the Solomon Islands capital. This follows talks over the past two days between Papua New Guinea foreign affairs and defense officials and their Honiara counterparts.

The Solomon Islands minister for foreign affairs and international trade, Sir Baddeley Devesi, says the talks which would have been held this week were complicated by the unannounced arrival of two Papua New Guinea patrol boats in Honiara last week. Sir Baddeley said the Papua New Guinea Government had apologized over the incident and the Honiara government had accepted their explanation.

The foreign affairs minister says Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands Government officials will continue to have discussions on arrangements for the peace talks but no definite date has yet been fixed.